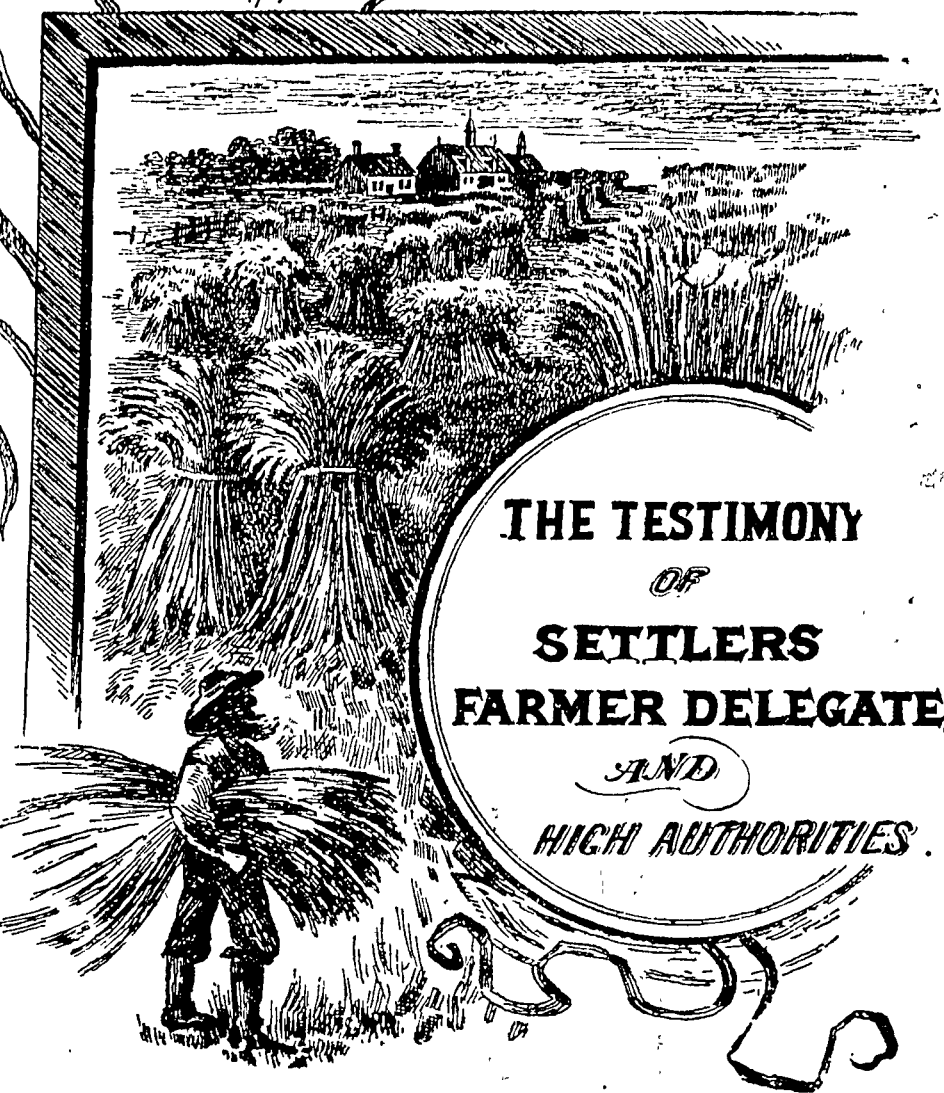
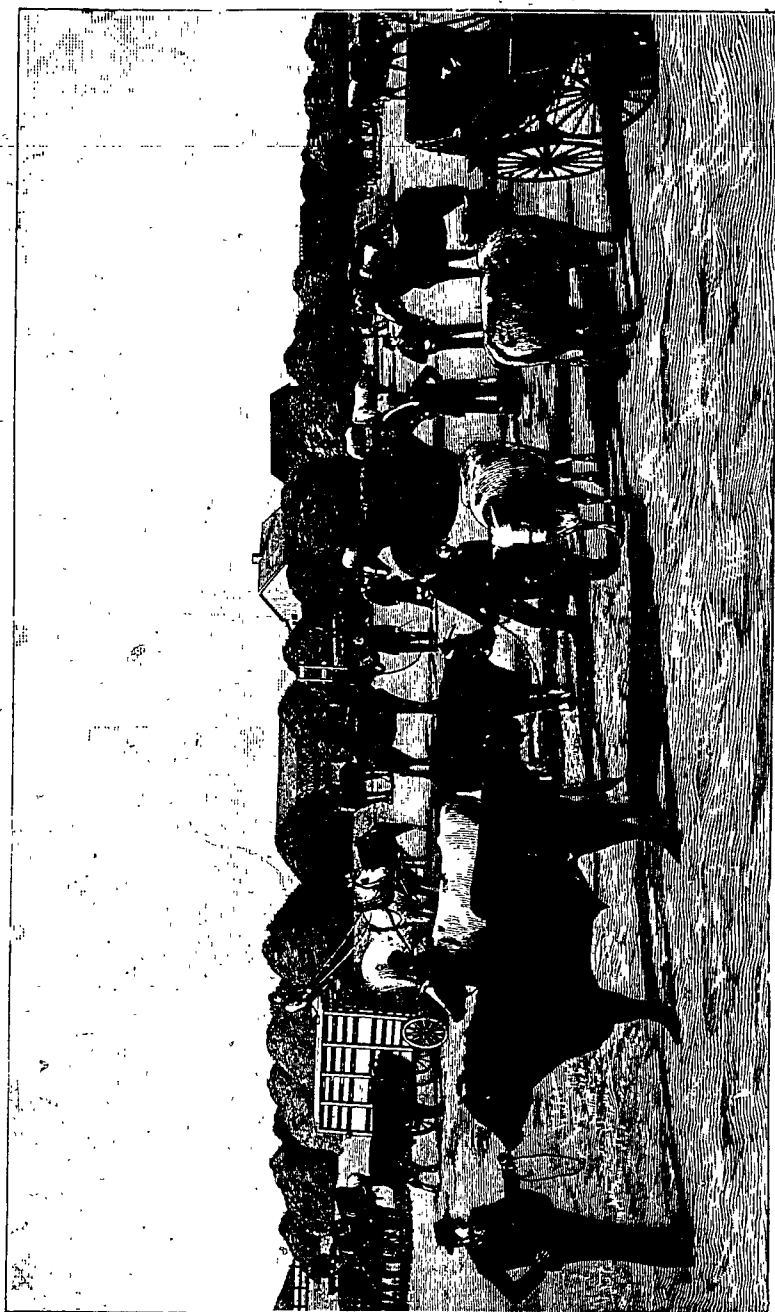




Western Canada AND ITS GREAT RESOURCES



THE TESTIMONY
OF
SETTLERS
FARMER DELEGATES
AND
HIGH AUTHORITIES.



FARM SCENE IN MANITOBA—THE BERESFORD STOCK FARM

WESTERN CANADA

AND ITS

GREAT RESOURCES

THE TESTIMONY OF

SETTLERS, FARMER DELEGATES AND HIGH AUTHORITIES

WITH

PREFACE AND AN APPENDIX ON THE CAUSES OF
FAILURE AND SUCCESS IN N.-W. FARMING



OTTAWA

PRINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU

1893

WESTERN CANADA

AND ITS

GREAT RESOURCES.

PREFACE.

The object of publishing this pamphlet is not so much to give a detailed description of Manitoba and the North-west, now known as "Western Canada," for that would be impossible in so short a space, but to lay before American Farmers, and those in Eastern Canada and elsewhere, a few facts concerning this truly great country, its wonderful fertility, and its unparalleled adaptability to stock-raising, as testified to by farmers from Minnesota, the Dakotas, Michigan, and other portions of the United States, who have visited the country, and many of whom are now happily and comfortably settled there.

Beyond a narrow strip along the Red River, in the vicinity of where the city of Winnipeg now stands, this great prairie region, stretching for nearly 1,000 miles from east to west, from the border of the Red River valley on the east to the Rocky Mountains in the west, was practically a *terra incognita* up to 1870, when Manitoba and the North-west became a portion of the Dominion of Canada, and when it still remained to open this great country to settlement. In 1879 the first railway tapped its fertile plains, and from that time onward settlement has grown apace; great plains have been transformed into fields of golden grain, producing the famous "Manitoba No. 1 hard" wheat; while cities, towns and villages have sprung into existence, and divers railway lines now bid for the traffic and trade of the farmer.

An idea of the progress made in ten years may be gathered from the following figures relating to the prairie section only:—

	1881.	1891.
Population	40,000	260,000
Grain crop in bushels	720,000	55,000,000
Railway mileage	150	4,000
Number of elevators	0	100
Elevator capacity	0	9,000,000
Number of post offices	153	600
Number of schools	85	720

These figures show a part only of what was actually accomplished in a decade, but they serve as an index, though incomplete, to what may and doubtless will be accomplished as the country's capabilities become better known and understood.

Western Canada includes an area of some 2,500,000 square miles, but the scope of this publication is limited to the four provinces of Manitoba, Assiniboia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan.

These four provinces are wholly within the fertile prairie region, and contain an area of some 440,000 square miles, or about 280,000,000 acres.

In contemplating the bewildering extent of this realm of prairie many have pictured it in their minds as a dreary, lonesome expanse of a dead sea level. Nothing can be more erroneous. The country, though termed prairie, is by no means a treeless plain, devoid of hills and other topographical features pleasing to the eye. The surface varies

from a gently-undulating to a high-rolling prairie and belts of hills, several hundred feet in height, clad in forests of the evergreen spruce and pine, as well as oak, elm, birch and poplar, while bluffs of timber dot the undulating surface of the plains. Rivers and creeks abound, varying in size from the Great Saskatchewan River to the tiny brooklet rippling down a hillside and then slowly feeling its way through valleys to its junction with some greater stream. Lakes are plentiful, and vary in size from Lake Winnipeg (second in size only to Lake Superior) to the lakelet of a few acres in extent. Such, condensed into a few short sentences, are the topographical features of the prairie region of Western Canada.

THE FUTURE POSSIBILITIES

of this great prairie region are far beyond the grasp of even the greatest mind. The work accomplished in the few years, counting from the advent of railways, has been truly great. The increase in number of bushels of grain raised from 720,000 to 55,000,000, or over; the increase in number of head of cattle from some 50,000 to over 600,000; the construction of nearly 4,000 miles of railway; the building up of towns and cities of from 2,000 to 30,000 inhabitants,—all this is the record of a decade, and yet this record can scarcely be taken as fixing a standard which cannot be greatly surpassed in the future. The attention of the people thus far has been devoted mainly to agriculture and stock-raising, these being of course the staple industries. The development of other resources has not yet been undertaken to any great extent, with the exception of lumbering and coal mining. But it is to be borne in mind that, while the prairie country is by nature intended as a producer mainly of breadstuffs, it has other resources as well. Timber is plentiful, and at the present time some 80,000,000 feet of it are yearly converted into lumber. Excellent building stone is found in many places and limestone quarries can be had in almost every district, yielding lime of first-class quality. Gold, silver and iron, nickel and copper are in the highlands bordering the Red River valley on the east; iron of excellent quality and in immense quantity is also found on islands in Lake Winnipeg. Mica, amber and other valuable minerals are found in the Lake Winnipeg district further north. Extensive salt-springs yielding first-class salt are found between Lake Winnipeg and Lake Manitoba. Coal oil springs are in the Lake Dauphin district, and out near the Rocky Mountains, west of Fort Macleod, and north of Edmonton again, the coal oil fields are by experts stated to be inexhaustible. Coal underlies a large territory in south-western Manitoba, the beds extending westward far beyond the boundary of the province, and the coal fields at Dunmore, Medicine Hat and Edmonton are illimitable, while the anthracite coal fields in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains on the Canadian Pacific main line, and on the Red Deer River further north, are extensive enough to supply the continent for hundreds of years to come with coal of excellent quality.

This enumeration of the resources of the country proves its capability of standing alone, independent as to its supplies of nearly the whole outside world, once these resources are developed as they soon will be.

Not only are the materials here in abundance for all the principal food requirements of man and beast, but those also for producing most of the implements and manufactured wares, and in quantities too great to measure aright as yet.

The soil for the most part is the most fertile in the world, equalled only by the famous Nile Delta in Egypt. The subsoil principally is a rich, sticky clay, which gradually, after being worked up to the surface, changes into hardly less fertile soil than the black mould itself. On the ridges and the higher plateaus the subsoil is mixed with land and gravel and some places shell, while the black mould is in most places as deep on the ridges as it is on the lower levels.

THE CLIMATE

is cold temperate. The summers are warm and the winters cold. The average heat of summer is about the same as that in New York State, but there is never the scorching heat which characterizes Kansas and other western States and deals disaster to their crops.

The winter is cold, but owing to the dryness of the atmosphere, and almost continually cloudless sky and sunshine, the cold is not felt as much as in the humid atmosphere along the Atlantic coast.

The snowfall in winter is light, while the rainfall in summer is plentiful for moistening the soil and assuring a good crop of cereals and grass.

Sunshine, however, predominates all the year round, and meteorological reports prove that of all places in Canada Winnipeg has the greatest number of hours of sunshine in the year, and what applies to Winnipeg in this respect applies equally to all parts of the prairie region.

The above description, however, as regards cold in winter, does not apply equally to all parts of the territory described, as in the province of Alberta and the western border of the prairie region the winters are milder than in Manitoba, Assiniboia and eastern Saskatchewan, Alberta, feeling the influences of the Japan current, and the Chinook winds wafted across the Rockies from the Pacific.

The climate of Western Canada as a whole, however, is the most healthful on the continent, no other district being able to show a death rate as low as Manitoba, according to carefully compiled Government records.

Malarial fevers are unknown, and no disease whatever, peculiar to the climate or the country, exists; and many cases might be cited where residents of malarial districts have sought and found both health and wealth on the prairies of Western Canada.

It is only within the last few years that the truth concerning this great country has become generally known, if indeed it can even now be said to be known; but this much, at least, is an established fact, that nowhere else in the world to-day is there such a quantity of rich arable land open for settlement, so blessed by nature with all the capabilities of marvellous richness and wonderful productiveness, as is found in Western Canada.

That this fact is taking hold upon the people, the large influx of farmers from Eastern Canada, the old countries of Europe and the United States is abundant proof.

We wish particularly in this pamphlet, to deal with the influx of American settlers, and their testimony regarding the country.

We will therefore leave a fuller description of the country in all its varied resources to other publications, such as those of the Department of the Interior at Ottawa, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, the Manitoba and North-western Railway Company, and the Manitoba and North-west Territories Governments, and we will let those speak who have had practical experience of the country and whose opinions will, without doubt, have weight wherever they are read.

For some time the Dominion Government, the Manitoba Government and the railway and land companies interested in the settlement of Western Canada had been receiving letters from settlers in North and South Dakota, Minnesota and other States, asking for particulars and information about this country, stating that owing to repeated failures of crops they were compelled to move, and go where they could better their circumstances.

These were promptly replied to, and the necessary information, so far as it could be supplied by letters and pamphlets, given. So numerous did these letters become, however, and so anxious were the writers that the Canadian Government should do something to assist them, that it was at length decided to send over a few good reliable men to talk with the American farmers, ascertain what was their real position, and see what could be done for them.

Acting upon this decision several men were sent over, and as a result of their visit not less than 3,000 souls have left American territory and settled in the Canadian North-west.

On one occasion a whole train load of settlers from South Dakota arrived in Winnipeg, bringing their stock, implements and effects along with them, all ready to start farming; and since the arrival of this party others have been continually coming, until, as has been already stated, we have received over 3,000 souls.

And they are still coming, not only from Dakota, but from Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Michigan and other States, and rapidly filling up the richest and best lands in different sections of the country.

In the early stages of this movement the Dakota papers, with the object of putting a stop to it, published a great many reckless and foundationless reports about this country, saying that it was "a land of snow and ice," that "the prairies are a sterile sandy waste, where vegetable growth is impossible," and that the parties sent over from Canada "could not be relied upon."

To counteract these statements, the farmers of Dakota were invited to appoint a number of

DELEGATES

to visit Manitoba and the Canadian North-west, and report what they saw and what the country was like.

They came, representative men from different sections of North and South Dakota, Minnesota, &c. They went where they pleased. They were furnished with free land guides, and every possible facility to see the country well. They travelled some twenty-five hundred miles by rail from Winnipeg to Calgary and back, Calgary to Red Deer and back, Regina to Prince Albert and back, and from Winnipeg to Yorkton and back, besides stopping off at the different points along the way to drive around the country, and talk with the farmers. They spent from three to five weeks in the country, and then made reports of their visit and their opinions of the country.

These reports are printed in this pamphlet.

The language could not be plainer. The delegates have been one and all delighted with the country, and strongly advise all their friends to go there, as already many of them have done—a large number of the delegates themselves having selected lands and made homestead entries before returning home.

In addition to these first delegations, a number of others have visited the country and their reports all corroborate those of the first delegates.

These reports, together with the reports of individual delegates, are all here published, in full or in part, for the information of those who desire to find a new home where they can better their circumstances, and get more land for their sons as well as themselves.

Letters from a number of those who left their homes in the States and settled in Western Canada, testifying to the truth of the information they received regarding the country before going there, and their entire satisfaction with their new homes, will be found in these pages also, along with the testimony of high authorities like the late Mr. J. W. Taylor, who, for nearly a quarter of a century, resided in Western Canada as an American Consul.



2500—REAPING IN MANITOBA.

ON THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

Wm. Johnston & Son, Photo
Prints.

WESTERN CANADA

AND ITS

GREAT RESOURCES.

THE TESTIMONY OF SETTLERS, FARMERS' DELEGATES AND HIGH AUTHORITIES.

REPORT OF A PARTY OF FARMERS' DELEGATES FROM SOUTH DAKOTA, WHO VISITED THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST IN COMPANY WITH MR. W. A. WEBSTER, DURING MAY AND JUNE, 1891 :—

We, the undersigned farmers of South Dakota, owing to the repeated (and almost total) failure of crops, had made up our minds that we must emigrate somewhere, and after hearing the description of the agricultural resources of Manitoba and the Canadian North-west by W. A. Webster, Dominion Emigration Agent, and A. F. Holmes, Colonization Agent, decided to visit and personally inspect these resources, not only in our own interests, but also in the interests of *very many* of our neighbours. Accompanied by Agent Webster we left Aberdeen, South Dakota, May 14, reached Winnipeg May 15, spent a day examining that fine substantial city of 28,000 inhabitants. We visited Brandon, which is the centre of a grand wheat growing region. Visited the Government Experimental Farm, saw here samples of grain, grasses, trees, shrubs, and saw their system of farming, which seems to be most complete. We visited the well-known farm of William Sandison, who raised last year 60,000 bushels of grain; his wheat averaged 30, and oats 90 bushels per acre. His teams and outfit were the best we ever saw. After driving over this district and meeting some old friends who have made wealth farming here, we went west to Moosomin; drove over this district, which is a splendid section for mixed farming. Visited the farms of J. R. Neff and Thos. Boubier, who have been farming here for the past nine years, growing 25 to 30 bushels of wheat per acre, oats 60 bushels and potatoes 300 bushels. From here we went west to Moose Jaw; drove over this district; splendid soil, good grass, stock living out all the year. Visited several fine farms and prosperous farmers in this district. From here we went to Calgary, a fine town of 4,000 inhabitants; many costly buildings of freestone, quarried on the spot. From here we had a grand view of the Rocky Mountains, 75 miles distant! Going north from here to the famous Red Deer district, we examined it thoroughly; it is a grand stock country, probably no better known, plenty of timber, water, hay and good soil, easily tilled; we found very many North Dakota farmers settling in this district. There is plenty of Free Homestead land here. Returning east we stopped off at Regina, the capital of the Territories. We examined this district thoroughly; no richer soil than here. North and south of here are fine stock sections, stock living out almost the entire year; we hear nothing of hard times here. From here we went north 250 miles, over a first-class railroad to Prince Albert, in the Saskatchewan valley; we examined this district very carefully; we find here plenty of timber for all purposes; water in abundance—rivers, lakes, and well water of first quality at depths of 10 to 15 feet. Rich, mellow soil, producing a luxuriant growth of grasses of the most nutritious kinds—in short, a first-class country for mixed farming, having now good railway facilities, and where good prices are had for stock and all kinds of farm products. There is plenty of Free Homestead land here.

Returning east to Portage la Prairie, we drove over that renowned district, and saw evidences of agricultural wealth that completely astonished us, it having all been accumulated within the past few years.

From here we took the railway to Yorkton, passing all the way through a first-class farming country, with evidences of prosperous farmers all along this road to Yorkton, which is its present terminus. From here we drove 45 miles along the proposed line of road to the *South Dakota Colony* (which now consists of 200 souls), the members of which settled here during the last few months. We visited all of them, most of them being old acquaintances; we found them all busy building houses and breaking land. We examined the country in which this colony is located as carefully as possible for the time at our disposal, and we find a first-class soil, plenty of small, beautiful lakes, pure water, plenty of timber for building, fencing, and fuel for all time to come; hay in abundance. We saw here three-year-old steers fit for the English market that never saw the *inside* of a stable.

In the interests of our friends and neighbours in South Dakota we desire that this, our report, be printed and circulated in the Dakotas; and we say most emphatically that the statements made by Agents Holmes and Webster, to us, in regard to the agricultural resources of Manitoba and the Canadian North-west, *are true in every particular*, as we found everything better than they represented them to us, and we wish here to tell the farmers of South Dakota that they can place confidence in their statements.

Signed at Winnipeg, 10th June, 1891.

O. W. PASHOLKE, Glasston, Pembina County, North Dakota.

FRANCIS B. MEGARRY, Leola, South Dakota.

JAMES CAMERON, Aberdeen South Dakota.

F. J. RANDALL, Conway, North Dakota.

WILLIAM HILL, Leola, South Dakota.

NEIL McLEAN, Roscoe, South Dakota.

REPORT OF A PARTY OF NORTH DAKOTA FARMERS' DELEGATES WHO SPENT A MONTH VISITING MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST WITH A VIEW TO REPORTING TO THEIR FRIENDS IN DAKOTA THE FACTS REGARDING THIS COUNTRY:—

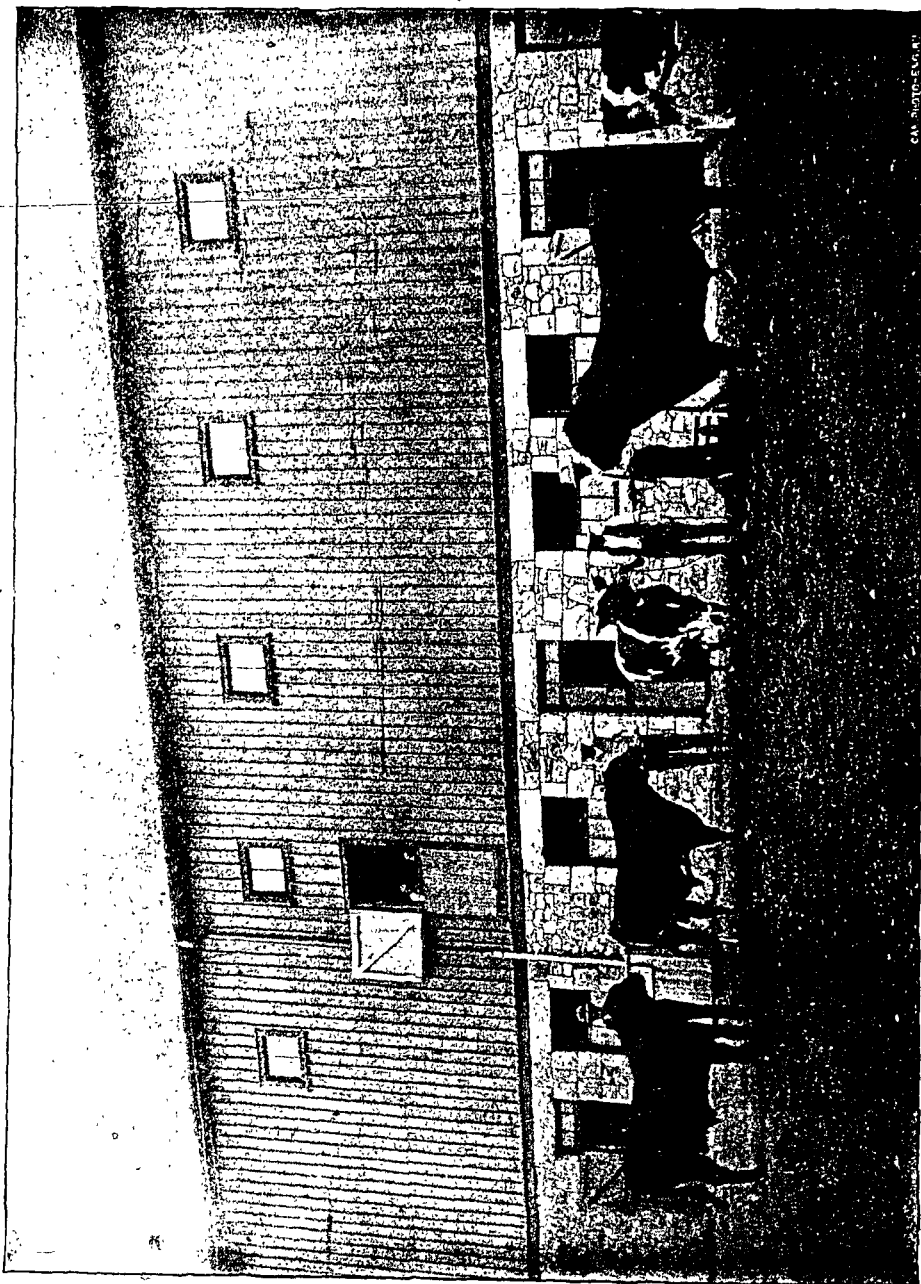
WINNIPEG, 18th June, 1891.

We, the undersigned delegates from North Dakota, wish to make the following report for the benefit of intending settlers. We have visited the country north and west of Yorkton for over 50 miles, and found a country which cannot be surpassed for mixed farming. There are numberless good meadows, and it would be hard to find a section without a nice poplar grove in it. There are also many streams of fresh water, and the soil is excellent in every particular. We spent several days at Prince Albert, Duck Lake, and in the Shell River country. The general appearance of the country around Prince Albert is particularly desirable on account of its groves of tamarack, spruce and poplar timbers. The valley of the Shell River is a very beautiful country, extending for a long distance east of the Thickwood Hills; the prairie is composed of a dark loam with heavy clay subsoil, with numerous lakes and springs. There are millions of acres of this land unoccupied in the valley of the Saskatchewan. The country in many places resembles parts of Great Britain. We also visited the country north of Calgary for more than 100 miles; the Poplar Grove and Red Deer country is a very desirable point for any one who desires to emigrate from Dakota. There is abundance of wood and water, and lumber can be got for \$18.50 per M. One of our party has already located about eight miles from Red Deer.

We have seen several herds of cattle that never were fed any hay, or had shelter during the winter; in fact, it is the country for a great many people who are getting poorer every year in Dakota.

We also desire to state that on our visit to Brandon we had the pleasure of visiting the Government Experimental Farm established at that point, and we were glad to find





what a great work the Government was doing here for the benefit of the farmers of the North-west. Mr. Bedford, the manager, is a fine man, and takes great pains in explaining everything to those who visit the farm. Experiments of all kinds are carried on at the farm, and farmers can always get the best and most reliable information as to what is best to grow and how to prepare it.

In conclusion, we have no hesitation in advising all our friends in Dakota, and any others who wish to better their condition, to come to the Canadian North-west.

Mr. D. D. Smith, of Park River, and Mr. A. Johnson and H. Chaley, of Edinburgh, also accompanied us on our whole trip of inspection, with the exception of Yorkton district, and will corroborate this statement.

INKERMAN DAVIS, Park River, North Dakota.

JAMES BELL, Latona, North Dakota.

ABRAHAM SMITH, Inkster, North Dakota.

BENJAMIN CODE, Park River, North Dakota.

WM. CODE, Park River, North Dakota.

E. CODE, Park River, North Dakota.

REPORT OF A PARTY OF FARMERS' DELEGATES FROM NORTH DAKOTA, WHO MADE A TOUR OF INSPECTION OF MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST IN COMPANY WITH CAPTAIN BLISS:—

WINNIPEG, 8th June, 1891.

We, the undersigned farmers from the counties of Griggs, Foster and Steele, in the State of North Dakota, United States, beg to ask the privilege of thus laying before our brother farmers in our district in North Dakota, this report of our tour of inspection of land in the Canadian North-west.

We arrived in Winnipeg on the 15th May, and started west next morning. We took the Canadian Pacific Railway at Winnipeg, and passing through very fertile lands at Portage la Prairie, Brandon and other points on that line, we came to Calgary, our first stop. We found Calgary a wonderful town for its age, being lighted by electricity, and having good water works, fire and police brigades, and first-class hotels. A large barracks of the Mounted Police is also at this point.

From Calgary we proceeded north on the Calgary and Edmonton Railway to Red Deer. About 30 miles north of Calgary we got into first-class land, well wooded and watered. At Red Deer we found good land, but rather too much wood. Through the kindness of Land Agent Jessup we got full information as to land open for settlement, and proceeded to Poplar Grove, 20 miles south of Red Deer. Here we spent three days and thoroughly inspected the land. We found the soil very good, a rich loam, and easily worked, plenty of wood and water, and from conversation with some settlers we believe this to be as good a locality as a farmer could wish.

After a careful inspection of Poplar Grove, we took the train again and proceeded to Calgary on the way to Prince Albert. Passing through Regina, the capital of the North-west Territories, a town of western enterprise and the headquarters of the Mounted Police force of the North-west, we came by Regina and the Long Lake Railway to Prince Albert. We arrived in Prince Albert and found a town of 900 or 1,100 inhabitants, beautifully situated on the Saskatchewan River, in a fertile valley. We went out south-east some 40 miles, and on the route passed through the finest country we had yet seen. The Birch Hill district was closely inspected, and resulted in showing us a land of wood, water and soil yet to be surpassed. Well water can be had in this section at from 5 to 12 feet, good and clear. Hay is extremely plentiful, being seen in many places over 3 feet high. Timothy seed will grow here, and brings forth a good crop. We find we cannot express ourselves too highly regarding this district, and consider it first-class in all respects for "mixed" farming. There is plenty of land here ready for homesteading.

We then proceeded to Yorkton, on the Manitoba and North-west Railway. We arrived in Yorkton, and proceeded by teams to view the land north and west. We saw and conversed with several old settlers from South Dakota. They are *all well satisfied*, and would not change their location. We went as far as Quill Lake, and found the land and country generally good for mixed farming. The crops look well, grass good and plenty.

WM. HOWDEN, Cooperstown, Griggs Co., North Dakota.	
ELLEF OLSON, Ottawa	do do
PETER B. HELLAND, Sharron	do do
GUDMUND GUDMUNDSE, Romnes, Griggs Co.	do do
JAS. PHALEN, Forrest River, Grand Forks Co.	do do
R. RUTLEDGE, ———, Palk Co.	do do
J. A. BOLE, ———, Foster Co.	do do

TESTIMONY OF THREE GENTLEMEN FROM NELSON COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA.

We the undersigned, after having been three weeks examining the unoccupied farming lands in the vicinity of Yorkton, Prince Albert, Regina and other parts of the Canadian North-west, do hereby certify that the representations made to our people by Mr. Martin McDonald, immigration agent, as to quality of land and supplies of wood, water, &c., &c., have been more than verified to us by our personal examination. And we have no hesitancy in saying that the intending settler cannot find a more inviting country on the American continent to-day to establish a home than on the line of the Manitoba and North-western Railway in the vicinity of Yorkton, or Prince Albert.

JOHN HENNESSY, Delegate from Nelson Co., North Dakota.	
D. McDUGALL	do do do
RICHARD CARR	do do do

THE TESTIMONY OF MANY OTHERS.

A LETTER FROM FORT SASKATCHEWAN.

DEAR SIR,—I arrived here on the 18th of April and found the spring well advanced and grain that was in early up and looking fine. Rented land from Robert McKernan, put in 25 acres of oats and 12 acres of barley and 1 acre of potatoes. The spring was dry and no rain till 10th June: then got plenty of rain, and threshed 716 sacks of oats; weighed some of the sacks and they weighed from 106 to 110 lbs. I had 600 bushels of barley and 500 bushels of potatoes. I consider that I had a good crop all round. I have been threshing all fall, and have seen some better and some not so good.

James Port, on south 28, township 53, range 22, had 12 acres of wheat that went 55½ bushels per acre; that is the best I know of. I feel sure that we can raise as good wheat as any place in America. As for oats and barley, we are away ahead. Potatoes, cabbage, turnips, onions, beans, pease and rhubarb are beyond description; no man would believe it till he sees it. I have seen some fine fields of timothy. Have seen the fattest cattle here I ever saw. Sheep do well, and there is lots of money in hogs, as we can grow barley and not half try, and there is a good market north for more pork than will ever be raised here. The growth of grass is something wonderful; on the high land it was 3 feet high, mixed with pea vine—better pasture a man could not ask for.

I remain, yours truly,

JOHN McLELLAN.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN.



Notman, Photographer.

HASSAN'S FARM - GILLSWOOD, MANITOBA.

PRINCE ALBERT vs. SOUTH DAKOTA.

DEAR SIR,—In return for your kindness in assisting us to get here, I drop you this letter to let you know how we are getting on since we left Brown county, South Dakota. On our way up we stopped two days at Regina, and the crops there were something enormous. The Brown Bros.' wheat went 58 bushels, Collins' 52, and a German neighbour's went 56 bushels per acre! oats 25 bushels. Roots and vegetables were astonishing! Here at Prince Albert crops are splendid: wheat 30, oats 60 bushels per acre, and not a particle of frost. I have cut and stacked a grand lot of hay since I came. We are having a great deal of rain lately; ground is now ploughing in fine shape. My nearest neighbour has just dug one acre of potatoes—yield, 400 bushels. J. Dalin, his family and car of stock have arrived all safe. They like this country very much. I have rented a fine farm five miles from town for one year; will then go on my own claim. Since coming here I have been around a good deal, and every farmer I meet is in love with this country. Cattle here are rolling fat, and bring good prices. The railroad from here to Yorkton will be finished next summer. I expect then to see a great rush of South Dakota farmers to this country, for I tell you it possesses wonderful advantages over South Dakota. Beautiful rivers and lake, first-class timber, lots of hay and grass and good rich soil. It is surprising the number of South Dakota farmers that have settled here this fall from Brown, Edmunds and Faulk counties, and they are all writing back for their friends to come here and share the advantages of this country with them. I forgot to tell you that the weather is delightful; threshing going on in every direction—30 bushels to the acre—No. 1 hard.

I am, yours truly,
JAMES CAMERON.

PRINCE ALBERT.

WHAT MR. JOHN KLEIN, OF WARNER, SAID.

SIR,—Having been appointed by a large number of my neighbours to visit the Canadian North-west and to examine its agricultural resources, and report on my return, I will say on the outset that we have been farming here in South Dakota for nine years, and between the repeated and almost total failure of crops, coupled with excessive taxes and high rates of interest, and low prices of farm produce, we find it impossible to support our families here. Accordingly I left Aberdeen, 10th October, arrived next day in Winnipeg, a fine city of 28,000 inhabitants, full of life and business.

From Winnipeg west I passed through Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Griswold, Virden, Moosomin, and such crops of wheat as I passed my eyes never saw before. Farmers were busy threshing out 30 bushels of wheat per acre, grading No. 1 hard, and selling at 80 cents per bushel. All other grain crops were in proportion. As for roots and vegetables, they were simply wonderful! In due time I reached Prince Albert, a fine town on the Saskatchewan River, with a population of 1,100. Here everything seemed prosperous. I found that a number of South Dakota people settled here this summer. After examining this district thoroughly I pronounce it a first-class country for mixed farming, the soil being rich, and plenty of timber, water, grass and hay, and where good prices are obtained for all kinds of farm produce. Cattle are easily grown and bring splendid prices as compared with South Dakota. And I tell my friends I am coming to Prince Albert to make my home. And I tell them further that they will make no mistake if they do likewise. I heard of no chattel mortgages, or 2 per cent a month here. On the contrary, farmers all seemed prosperous and contented, all being in love with this country. Taxes are very low, and interest likewise; good schools, churches, etc. The people I met were all civil and obliging, and gave me all the assistance possible to enable me to possess the information I was seeking. Small fruits grow in abundance; fish in the rivers; game in the bush. In conclusion, I tell my friends and neighbours that after a careful examination of the country, and for the above reasons, besides many others, that I and my family are going there to make our future home; and I tell all those in whose interest I examined that country that I

found it better than the agents at Aberdeen described it to me, and that any man in South Dakota who is not satisfied with his success, cannot do better than settle in the Prince Albert district of the Canadian North-west.

I am, yours truly,
JOHN KLEIN, of Warner, South Dakota.

ABERDEEN, South Dakota, 22nd Oct., 1891.

REPORT OF A MICHIGAN MAN.

WINNIPEG, MAN., 10th August, 1891.

SIR,—Having visited Manitoba and the North-west Territories in the interests of farmers now living in Saginaw county, Mich., I beg leave to submit the following report:—I arrived in Winnipeg June 29 and on the following day proceeded to southern Manitoba. The country is very suitable for mixed farming. The soil is a black, sandy loam, with clay subsoil, and gives evidence of great fertility in the wonderful crops it produces. Many of the farmers I visited expected the wheat to yield 35 bushels to the acre. Oats, barley and all kinds of garden vegetables were showing an excellent growth. I visited the Turtle Mountains, along the south of Manitoba. They are covered with timber (poplar, scrub oak and ash), which yield a good supply of firewood. A great many creeks run out of the mountains, and numerous marshes in the vicinity give an abundance of hay. There is a very beautiful lake of pure, clear water at Killarney, and a larger one at Whitewater. Generally speaking, the well-water is excellent. Near Deloraine quite a productive coal mine has been opened up, and cheap coal is expected in the near future.

I visited the Portage plains and the Brandon district, and was as far west as Regina. I venture to say that along the main line of the Canadian Pacific, from High Bluff to Virden, there is one of the most productive cereal growing districts of the world. Some idea of the crops can be obtained from the fact that it was found necessary, this year, to import 1,700 farm labourers to assist the farmers to harvest their grain, and a great many more are still required. A noticeable feature of the grain fields is the evenness of surface, showing the soil to be of uniform strength. There are fields of hundreds of acres in which the grain all stands about the same height. I was informed that there is no midge, weevil, rust or blight of any kind to injure the grain.

I examined the Indian Head and Regina districts very thoroughly. The surface is level. The soil is heavier than that of the Brandon and Portage la Prairie districts. I should characterize it as a clay loam. It does not bake, but is soft and mellow and works easily. That it is rich can be seen from the crops and enormous garden vegetables it produces. To the south of Regina there is excellent grazing country. The water supply of Western Assiniboia is somewhat interesting. Farmers have dug 100 feet deep without reaching water, whereas at 25 feet from the first well an abundant supply has been obtained at a depth of not more than 40 feet. In one locality where there seems to have been difficulty in getting water, an excellent flowing well has been struck.

I was very much pleased with the appearance of the Prince Albert district. The country in the immediate vicinity is admirably adapted to stock-raising. It is hilly, and contains numerous small lakes, and marshes where the hay grows from two to three feet long. The hills, too, are covered with a very luxuriant growth of grass, pea-vine, vetches, &c. There is an abundance of timber (spruce, oak and poplar) for fencing and firewood. About 50 miles from Prince Albert, along the Stony Creek and the Carrot River, there is a locality unsurpassed in the territories for mixed farming. Homesteads can be had in this locality, or land can be purchased for \$2.50 an acre.

Returning east, I took a trip on the Manitoba and North-western Railway, from Portage la Prairie to Saltcoats. The country through which this road runs presents a gently undulating surface. It is nearly all arable, and excellent for mixed farming. The soil is a rich black loam, in some places 2 feet deep, with a clay subsoil. An abundance of pure, clear water can be obtained by digging from 8 to 20 feet deep. The

timber supply, which is an important consideration, is very plentiful. A large quantity is suitable for being manufactured into lumber. Near Binscarth there is a saw-mill doing a flourishing business. There are numerous small marshes which yield an abundance of very nutritious hay. Fish abound in the small lakes, and ducks and geese are very common. The crops, as elsewhere in the Canadian North-west, are marvellous. One needs only to see them to appreciate the fertility of the soil.

People enjoy living in a country where there is some good scenery. Along this line, though the surface of the country is gently undulating, yet in some places it is sufficiently broken to become delightfully picturesque. For a short distance we ran through a beautiful valley, and frequently we got glimpses of delectable plains. Many of the villages that are springing up along the line are very pleasantly situated, either in some secluded dell or on a sheltered hillside.

In conclusion, I wish to express my gratitude to the officials of the Canadian-Pacific Railway and the Manitoba and North-western Railway, and to the Government agents, all of whom facilitated my making as thorough examination of their magnificent country as the time at my disposal would permit.

Yours very truly,

A. KNECHTEL.

Mr. James B. Truscott, an old resident of Faulk County, on returning from the Canadian North-west, wrote a long and enthusiastic letter about the country, from which the following extracts are made, the whole letter being of similar import:—

As you are aware, I left home on the 27th July for Winnipeg, where I arrived in good time, and where, let me tell you, I met with a revelation; for, instead of finding a poor, miserable, scattering, poverty-stricken, God forsaken place, as most of our papers would lead us to believe, I found a most beautiful, charming, healthful and enterprising city, possessing apparently everything that can be found in any large city.

At 2.30 p.m., Saturday, 1st August, the train pulled out of the depot and away we sped for the west. After passing over about one hundred miles of the best country I ever saw, we arrived at Carberry, with the sun about one hour high, and then finding Mr. Wm. McMillan and presenting my letter of introduction, that gentleman rushed to the livery stable, got a horse and buggy, and away we went out through the country; and oh, oh, what fields of grain! I got out of the buggy and stood against the posts of the railway fence, but on attempting to take an observation for a line from the top of the fence post to the top of a post on the other side of the field, found I was unable to do so, the wheat being too high, higher than the fence posts, and the field as flat and level as a floor. For fear that there might be a swell in the field, and thereby deceive me, I went to the corner of the field and took a view diagonally across a small portion of it with the same results. The wheat was taller than the fence posts; yes, taller than myself, and so thick that a jack rabbit or a dog could not run through it; and this I say not only of one field but of many. There are hundreds of the same; it is the history of the country.

Out on the Hope farm I saw other wonders; but what is the use of describing? It would only be repeating what has already been said. Suffice it to say that Mr. Hope came to his present home in 1878, bringing very little property with him, and now has 320 acres. One field of 170 acres of wheat will turn off forty bushels to the acre; thirty acres of oats will yield about seventy-five bushels to the acre; and a large field of timothy—the best I ever saw, and I have seen good in New York, New Hampshire, Vermont and Connecticut—he claimed 3 tons per acre. He took me to a forty-acre field which yielded crops that in the last three years sold for \$900, \$1,000 and \$1,200 respectively. He has also a fine lot of horses, cattle, etc., a splendid house, two years' wood cut and piled near the door, some three or four hundred bushels in the granary left over from last year.

Back to Mr. Bedford's we drove again, and found him patiently waiting for us. After a little chat he gave me the following averages which he expects. I think on some he is low; but his business being an experimental one, some of the grains run low, thus bringing down the general average.

Wheat, 27 bushels per acre.

Oats, 75 " "

Barley, 55 " "

Pease, 20 " "

Timothy, 1½ tons "

Red clover, 3 " "

Green corn fodder, 46 tons per acre.

Last year one kernel of corn produced fourteen stalks, the united length of which was eighty-five feet.

Mr. T. O. Davis, a resident of Prince Albert, took me into his garden, where I could see no special pains had been taken to force anything, but still the growth was wonderful. An apricot tree five feet high; maple trees, one year old, two feet high; tobacco with leaves 14 x 28 inches; potatoes of late planting, fifteen stalks and twenty potatoes to the hill, besides a lot of little ones; cauliflower, headed, cooked and eaten; raspberries of this year's planting, one stalk had twenty-one berries; flowers without number, such as poppies, four-o'clocks, pansies, mignonette, etc.

• But my samples, here they are:

One sample of Fife wheat, 4 ft. 8 in. high, will yield about 40 bushels per acre.

One sample of Ladoga wheat, 5 ft. high, will yield about 40 bushels per acre.

One sample of Ladoga wheat, 4 ft. 3 in. high, will yield about 35 bushels per acre.

One sample of oats, 4 ft. high, will yield about 75 bushels per acre.

The above are all from the farm of Mr. Wm. Plaxton, six miles out of town.

We next called on Mr. T. F. Miller, near here. He also gave me a fine lot of samples, as follows:—

Oats, ready to cut, 3 ft. 6 in. high, will yield about 60 bushels per acre.

Oats, sowed 19th June, 4 ft. high, will yield about 30 bushels per acre.

Ladoga wheat, 5 ft. high, will yield about 30 bushels per acre.

Ladoga wheat, 4½ ft. high, will yield about 40 bushels per acre.

Fife wheat, 3½ ft. high, will yield about 27 bushels per acre.

Barley, ready to cut, 4 ft. high, will yield about 50 bushels per acre.

Mr. Miller came here poor 17 years ago, but he is now well off. He says he never missed a crop; never was nipped by the frost till last year. Their frosted crop yielded 25 bushels an acre and sold for 75 cents a bushel. He sold last year cattle to the amount of \$213, and this year, so far, to the amount of \$145.

Mr. J. McArthur, of this place, came here in 1884 with 200 sheep. He has now 1,500; sold this year 103 fat wethers at \$5.50 each, and 5,000 lbs. of wool at 12 cents a pound; besides 500 lambs, which can be sold at any time for \$3 each. Mr. McArthur is now a banker in town.

Mr. James Mair told me that in one year he had from 90 acres 2,300 bushels of wheat; from 8 acres 600 bushels of barley; from 12 acres 1,150 bushels of oats. He has always had good crops, except two years, which then gave him about 15 bushels per acre each time. He came here in 1880.

And now, Dakota farmers, friends and neighbours, you who have had the courage, hope and life nearly ground out of you through the long succession of failure of crops; you who must make a move very soon or go to the wall, perhaps never to recover, why not come this way? This place is near you; the people are the most cordial, the most hospitable, I ever met. They not only want you to come, but with outstretched arms they beg you to come and be one of their happy and prosperous group. The climate is mild and healthful, the land is free, the harvest is sure, and the profit is rich. With one accord, the people here all say, Come. They will meet you at the border and show you the way. All you have to do is to come.

To the gentlemen at Carberry, Brandon and Prince Albert, who treated me so generously, I now return my sincerest thanks for the favours shown me, hoping also that their very bountiful harvest will be safely garnered, and that before long I will be one of their company.

JAMES B. TRUSCOTT.*

MILLARD, FAULK Co., SOUTH DAKOTA.

*Mr. Truscott is now settled in Prince Albert, and on another page will be found his report of the country.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT OF DELEGATES FROM SPINK COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, FROM
ABERDEEN STATION, NOVEMBER 18TH, 1891.

We left Aberdeen on 14th September, arriving in Winnipeg next day.

We saw wheat at Portage la Prairie averaging 35 to 50 bushels per acre, and thousands of acres of it.

We went to Prince Albert. We found this to be a magnificent grazing country along the line of road. At Saskatoon we saw four car loads of three-year-old steers for which the buyer paid \$40 each.

We arrived at Prince Albert on the night of the 19th September and found they had as yet no frost. Tomatoes and all vegetables green. Their first frost occurred on the 24th September, over a month later than in Spink county.

On the following Monday we got teams for the purpose of looking over the Prince Albert country.

We went on to Carrot River and camped for dinner. Here some of our party took up land, as we found it excellent for mixed farming.

After dinner we started on for Stony Creek, arriving at 5 p.m.

We camped here over night, and next day made a selection of a township of land to which we intend to go in the spring, and can only add that it contains living water, plenty of timber, first-class soil and good hay, with room enough for all who wish to join us, and we conclude by saying that we have seen Mr. Child's letter in the *Star*, together with the letters of other parties from time to time, and we heartily endorse all that they contain, and add that the story has not been half told of the hidden wealth of the Canadian North-west.

(Signed)

W. J. TURNER.

W. H. HOLCOMB.

C. C. ELLIOTT.

T. JONES.

MELETTE, SPINK COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA.

[The above mentioned gentlemen spent over a month in the Canadian North-west, are the most influential men of their neighbourhood, and have selected their future homes in the Prince Albert district.]

A LETTER FROM THREE SETTLERS.

PRINCE ALBERT, N.W.T., 9th November, 1891.

MY DEAR SIRS,—You no doubt would be glad to hear from us in our new home, but as we are among the late and new arrivals, this being only our fourth week here, you cannot expect much of a report of the country from us at this date.

The climate here, so far, is delightful; we have no winds, as we used to understand them in Dakota; we have had some decided frosts, with a flurry or two of snow, but the ground is perfectly bare now, and is likely to be for a month yet to come, our neighbour's cattle taking care of themselves.

Crops of last season exceed the most sanguine expectations, the yield of wheat averaging around on all sides of 40 bushels an acre, oats 75 to 100 bushels, and barley 50 bushels an acre; whilst cabbage, potatoes and other garden products are simply immense, potatoes yielding at the rate of 7 hills to the bushel, and oh! what beauties; they would put Ireland to the blush.

Wood here, for fuel, is very plentiful and cheap; we are now getting all we need for the taking.

Though the crops grown here are surpassingly excellent, yet, judging from the number and quality of the horses, cattle and sheep we see around us, we are forced to the conclusion that this is the *stockman's paradise*, here being found the very best of pasturage and meadows, the best of water, and natural shelter without limit; whilst other shelter, such as barns, sheds, &c., can be put up as cheaply as in any part of the world.

And as experienced, practical farmers, we who have made farming our life-labour and study, we who have owned and worked in good countries as well as bad, would say that we are well pleased with our new home, and to our brother farmers in other parts of America, those who seem to be struggling against fate, to you, we, in all sincerity, earnestness and truthfulness, advise you to come and cast your destinies in this most bountiful of bountiful countries.

Respectfully yours,
(Signed)

J. B. TRUSCOTT,
M. FREEMAN,
W. M. SLATTERY,

All of Millard, Faulk Co., S. Dakota.

To our friends in South Dakota and elsewhere.

MR. B. C. TALBOT WRITES:

I left Aberdeen on 4th October for the purpose of examining the agricultural resources of the Canadian North-west, in company with Thos. Gregg, of Clarke county. Next day we reached Winnipeg, a splendid city. Mr. Campbell, General Immigration Agent, met us at the station; showed us the agricultural exhibit, then going on. Here we saw the products of the country from Calgary to the Red River. The display of grain, roots and stock was enough to gladden the heart of any farmer. The horned stock were the best I ever saw in any country. From Winnipeg I went west to Qu'Appelle, where I stopped two days, visiting friends who showed me over the beautiful Qu'Appelle valley, and I wish to say that for wheat growing that valley is hard to beat. After parting with these kind friends we pushed west to Calgary, a splendid growing town. From there we went both to the Red Deer, where we stopped two days looking over the country. We pronounce this a first-class stock country. From there we went to Edmonton. Here we looked over the country for twenty miles around, where every farmer told us they were more than satisfied with the country and their success—good soil, plenty of timber, first-class coal right on the surface, hay and grass in abundance, stock of all kinds rolling fat. At all the points mentioned there is plenty of free homestead land. Any person 18 years old can file on a quarter-section; filing fee only \$10. Donald Ross showed us over the Edmonton district. He showed us timothy hay and garden stuff that excelled anything we ever saw. Stock of all kinds bring big prices as compared with South Dakota.

In conclusion, I tell my friends that I found the country much better than the agents at Aberdeen described it to me. That farmers desiring homes cannot do better than settle in the Canadian North-west for the above and other reasons too numerous to mention.

At Winnipeg we visited friends who have farmed there 33 years, and have made a grand success.

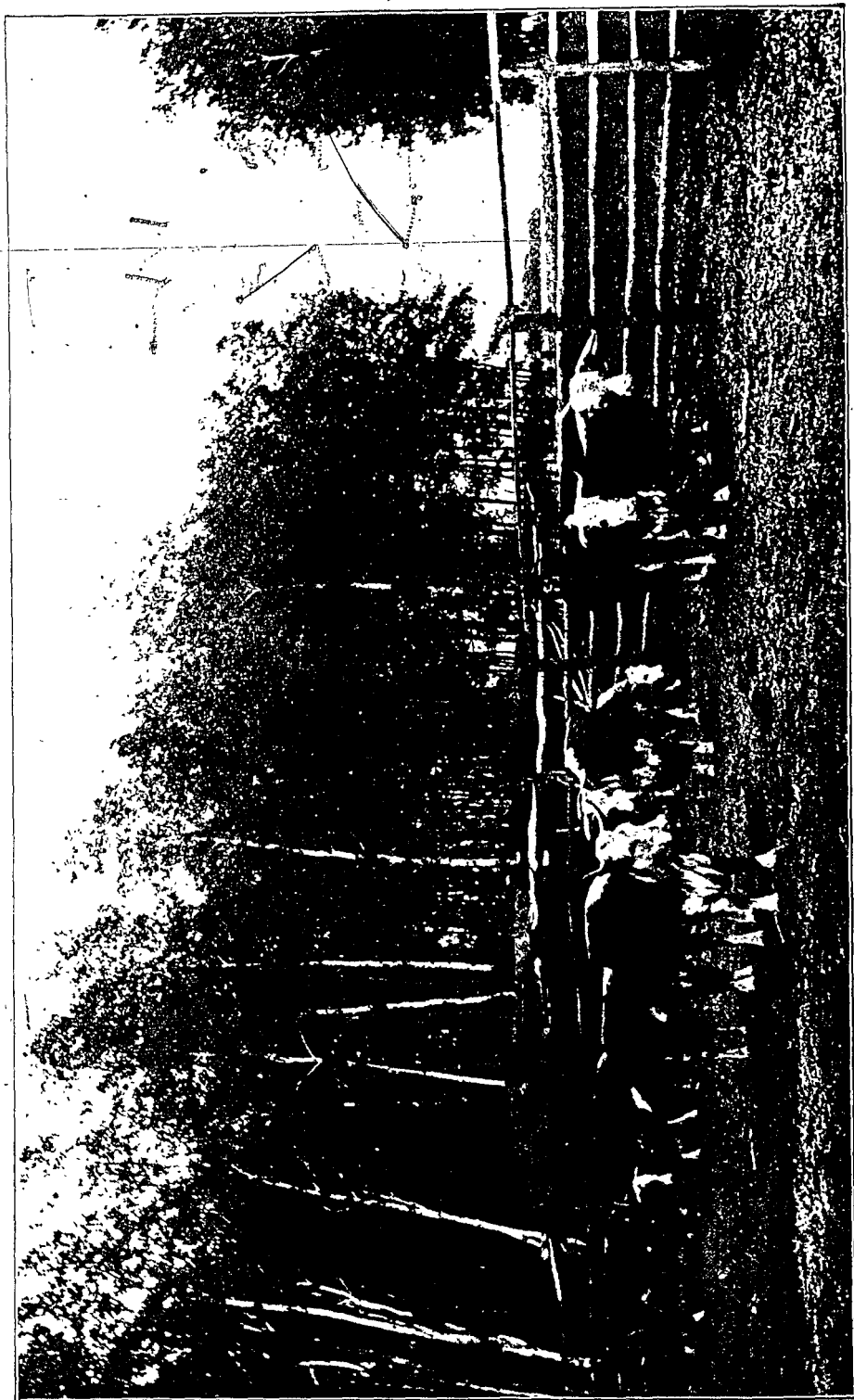
B. C. TALBOT,
Bath, South Dakota.

WHAT A STOCKMAN SAYS:

CALGARY, ALBERTA, 27th August, 1891.

SIR,—I came to Alberta with a band of horses in 1882 and again in 1883, and was so favourably impressed with it that I concluded to make my home here, and returned with that intention in 1886. Since then I have resided at Calgary, and, in connection with my business as stock dealer, am continually in the saddle and have constant opportunities of seeing the country during all seasons. And I must say that the more I see of it the more I am impressed with the great future it must have as a cattle, agricultural and mineral country. As to my experience, I may say that I have not confined myself to stock alone, as I have under crop some 225 acres, principally oats, but have also wheat, barley, potatoes and roots, and I am pleased to be able to state that my crops





HEREFORD CATTLE—SILVER HEIGHTS, WINNIPEG, MAN.

Notman, Photographer.

are a splendid lot. I have oats that stand 5 feet 10 inches, and will yield on an average from 45 bushels to 55 bushels per acre, and much of the crop will, I believe, thresh over 65 bushels per acre.

My brother and myself have 1,500 to 2,000 head of cattle, principally three and four-year-old steers, a choice herd. I find cattle do remarkably well here. We have about 150 head of horses, and as a horse country I believe Alberta has no equal. We have also from 1,000 to 2,000 sheep near Calgary, and they do very well. In fact, taken all round, I know of no other country which can equal the Calgary district as a grain growing, dairy farming and stock country.

W. R. HULL.

A MINNESOTA MAN.

WINNIPEG, 21st November, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—Having returned from a flying trip to the Edmonton district, whither I went in quest of suitable land for settlement, I desire to inform you that I found the district all that it was represented to me to be—a first-class country for immigration. Going through there I found this to be a very fine country, good rich soil, good water in abundance, plenty of timber for all purposes, besides the immeasurable quantity of coal on the Saskatchewan.

The yield of grain in the Edmonton district this season has been great, both as to quantity and quality. One farmer near the town threshed 12,000 bushels of grain from 275 acres, his wheat giving over 40 bushels to the acre.

This trip so satisfied me that I intend at an early day to move my family and effects to Edmonton.

Yours very truly,

ROBERT REID.

JADIS POST OFFICE, KITTSON CO., MINN.

A MICHIGAN DELEGATE SAID:—

Having been delegated by a number of my neighbouring families in Michigan to inspect the western territories of Canada, I left Michigan late in August, arriving in Edmonton on the 11th September. From that time I remained in the Edmonton district to acquaint myself as thoroughly as might be with the different localities. During two months I travelled a good deal in every direction from Edmonton, and speaking generally of that district, I may say, that for the purpose of mixed farming it has no superior and few equals under the sun. I visited farmers throughout the district, both when about winding up their harvest and when finished threshing. The sample of grain is excellent and the yield far exceeding the farmers' own expectations; wheat went 40 to 50 bushels to the acre, averaging about 45; barley 45 to 50; and oats 80 to 100 bushels per acre; while vegetables and roots showed a still more remarkable growth. I saw a farmer digging up 100 bushels of potatoes with his manure fork, and so did each of his assistants, and I saw many a cabbage weighing 15 to 20 lbs.

The soil is rich to an extraordinary degree, as above mentioned products amply verify. Water is plentiful and of first-class quality, small lakes being found in many places as well as running streams. Timber is plentiful for farm use and building purposes, and besides a never-failing supply of good coal, which a farmer can take from the banks of the Saskatchewan and load his wagon free of charge. All these properties combined make the district all that can be desired for mixed farming.

In conclusion, I may add that as soon as circumstances allow, I shall go to the Edmonton district to settle.

WM. H. PAIGE,

Spencer Creek, Antrim Co.,
Mich., U.S.

THE REPORT OF SEVEN OTHER DELEGATES.

We visited the country north and south, east and west, of Edmonton, for miles, and found a country that could not be surpassed for grain-raising or mixed farming. There are numberless good meadows, and it would be hard to find a farm without a good grove of poplar, spruce or tamarack—in fact, all the wood necessary for building purposes. There is an abundance of clear, fresh water in all parts, and good building lumber can be bought from \$15 to \$18 per 1,000 feet. Finer cattle and sheep we have never seen. The climate is all that can be desired, as it is not nearly as cold there in December as it was in Dakota and Minnesota in November, when we left the Red River valley. Good coal can be had all along the banks of the Saskatchewan and Sturgeon rivers for the taking out, or can be bought at the pit for about \$1.75 per ton.

We have no hesitation in advising all who wish to better their condition to come to the Canadian North-west.

JOHN J. SCOTT,	Lake City,	Minnesota.
MARTIN NILSON,	Bellmont,	North Dakota.
THOS. OLIVER	do	do
ALECK ASHER	do	do
ROBERT RITCHIE,	Carman,	Minnesota.
JAMES MILLER,	Crookston	do
E. C. SMITH	do	do

THE REPORT OF THREE GENTLEMEN FROM COOPERSTOWN, N.D., WHO SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS INSPECTING THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST :

On arriving at Winnipeg we found a beautiful city of 27,000 inhabitants, with large solid buildings, which not only goes to show the enterprise of the people, but also that they have every faith in the country that backs it.

We then proceeded to Portage la Prairie, where we found a large stretch of land in the vicinity, which cannot be surpassed for grain-growing on this continent. We also found a good farming country extending as far west as Broadview, which was as far west as daylight would permit our seeing the country. We then proceeded to Regina, the capital of the Great North-west Territories, and here we found a good agricultural country for miles around. We also noticed the fine substantial brick buildings in this town, which shows that enterprising business men have faith in the town as well as the surrounding country.

From here we took the "Regina and Long Lake Railway" to Prince Albert, and after reaching Saskatoon, and from there north to Prince Albert, we found a country that cannot be excelled for mixed farming. You can scarcely find a section without lots of hay, timber, fresh water and arable land; we were told that that same stretch of country extends as far west as the Rocky Mountains along the valleys of the Saskatchewan.

We next proceeded to Calgary; there we found a beautiful town, 3,500 of a population, with buildings that would be a credit to a town three times its population, with a fine country surrounding it. Proceeding northward on the "Calgary and Edmonton" road, we also found a country that is hard to beat. Prairie dotted with groves of spruce, poplar and pine, also numerous small lakes and creeks of fresh water, a park-like country in its appearance. The soil is from one to four and a half feet in depth of black loam with a heavy subsoil—in fact, we think this and the Prince Albert district the garden of the North-west.

We wish to express our appreciation of the kindness and attention shown us during our five days visit to Prince Albert, where we were well received and given every facility to inspect the outlying districts.

F. B. KING,
J. H. McDONALD,
A. T. BOWDEN,
Cooperstown, Griggs Co., North Dakota.

FROM BRULE COUNTY.

A BRULE COUNTY FARMER ADDS SOMETHING TO THE PRAISE OF THE NORTH-WEST—HE IS SATISFIED THAT THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST IS A GOOD PLACE FOR A HOME—ONE YOUNG MAN'S SUCCESS IN FARMING IN THAT COUNTRY.

GENTLEMEN,—Being on my way from the South Dakota colony, Assiniboia, Canada, I just dropped off here to tell you—as you know I went from Brule county last spring—I found the country much better than you represented it to me. I have taken up a quarter-section near Sheho Lake, where I have plenty of timber for all purposes; plenty of water, splendid grass and hay to no end. I have built a good log house and have everything ready to move in next spring. I am now on my way to Brule county to get my stock and what things I have there ready to go up in early spring. A car from Aberdeen to Yorkton will cost me \$78; but stock is so much higher in Manitoba than South Dakota that the difference will more than pay the cost of transportation. Cows in Assiniboia are worth \$30 to \$40; all other stock in proportion. On my claim there are forty acres of nice bush; the soil is as good as is to be found anywhere, and this is proved by the enormous growth of oats, barley and roots grown on breaking in the colony this year. Next summer, I believe, a railroad will run through the colony to Prince Albert. The settlers will then have a railway at their doors. I tell all my friends in Brule county that I have settled there, believing it to be just the place to make a good home. Mixed farming pays splendidly, and as a stock country I never saw the equal; hundreds of steers sold this fall right off the grass for four cents on the hoof. Next summer there will be lots of work on the building of the railway. Everybody I met there seemed contented. Money was plenty, and there are no two per cent a month loans there. Taxes are very low, and money only eight per cent per annum—no bonus.

Yours truly,

FRED. MOHR.

CHAMBERLAIN, BRULE COUNTY, S. D.

WHAT TWO WELL-KNOWN SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS SAW IN THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

To our Friends and Neighbours of Brown County:

We left Aberdeen, S.D., 9th September for the purpose of examining the agricultural resources of the Canadian North-west.

After crossing the boundary we saw magnificent crops of all kinds, all the way to Winnipeg. We found Winnipeg the most substantial city of its size we ever saw. Between Winnipeg and Yorkton, a distance of 279 miles, we saw the finest crops that we ever saw in our lives—oats, wheat and barley. Vegetables and small fruits of all descriptions. From Yorkton we drove into the South Dakota colony, a distance of 45 miles. We examined this country carefully, and found it a very fine grain and stock country, and plenty of wood, water, hay and grass. We met the greater number of the South Dakota colonists, and failed to find a single one dissatisfied. We returned from there to Portage, and from there we went west to Regina, passing immense fields of wheat along the route, with evidences of prosperous farmers on all sides. We spent two days in the Regina district, and pronounce it a first-class soil for agricultural purposes. Saw some of the finest cattle and sheep that we ever saw. Three-year-old heifers that would weigh 1,300 to 1,400 pounds, selling for \$32.00 each. From here we went to Prince Albert, a distance of 247 miles, a prosperous town of 1,100 inhabitants, containing saw-mills, grist-mills, schools, churches and steam-boat landing.

From this place we drove sixty miles south-east in Carrot River settlement; found everybody prosperous and hard at work securing their immense crop of grain. Mr. Beattie stated that he helped Mr. Cameron, one of his neighbours, thresh 517 bushels of oats from six acres, and from thirty-three loads of sheaves he threshed 900 bushels of wheat.

We found the farmers all prosperous; thoroughly satisfied with their prospects. The people we met all looked the picture of health, and all well clad.

We enquired particularly about chattel mortgages, and we found it difficult to make the farmers understand what they were, but when we told them how universal they were in South Dakota, and that the usual rate of interest is twenty-four to thirty-six per cent, they looked astonished, and asked us why we stayed in such a country, and under such a condition of things. Our answer was that we would get out just as soon as we could complete arrangements.

In conclusion—we spent three weeks looking over this beautiful country, and found it satisfactory in every respect, and found it much better than we expected from the description given by the agents. We desire to say to our friends and neighbours in South Dakota who are not satisfied with their success here, that they can make a success there, with a little means and their own labour.

GEO. WENTWORTH,
F. G. WENTWORTH.

28th September, 1891.

A PLAIN STATEMENT.

I came from Port Hope (Ontario) and settled on Sheep Creek, in Alberta, 20th July, 1883. When I landed all I had was \$70. I paid \$32 to have four acres broken. This I sowed in 1884, and threshed 225 bushels, part of my crop being spoiled.

In 1885, I sowed 14, and threshed 500 bushels.

1886	do	22	do	1,500	do
1887	do	28	do	1,800	do
1888	do	40	do	2,000	do
1889	do	45	do	2,800	do
1890	do	100	do	2,000	(drought).
1891	do	200	do	7,065	bushels.

I own 960 acres of land, all of which is fenced. I own 76 head of cattle and 14 horses, 1 binder, 2 mowers, and implements needed for cultivation of my land, and work 5 teams. I estimate the value of my estate as follows:—

960 acres fenced at \$10	\$9,600 00
76 cattle	2,000 00
14 horses	2,000 00
Implements	1,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$14,600 00

27th January, 1892.

JOSEPH BRICE.

THEY LIKE THE COUNTRY.

A TRIP THROUGH WESTERN CANADA BY A NUMBER OF PORTAGE COUNTY MEN.

STEVENS POINT, WIS., 5th December, 1892.

J. W. MONTAGUE, Esq.,
Colonization Agent.

DEAR SIR,—We, the undersigned, have much pleasure in handing you the following brief report of our late trip through Western Canada and the valley of the great Saskatchewan River. We left Stevens Point on 10th November, 1892, by Wisconsin Central Railroad, and arrived in Prince Albert by Canadian Pacific train on Saturday night, 12th November. Mr. R. H. Mair, local immigration agent, met us at the depot and escorted us to our hotel, where we enjoyed a quiet rest after our long and weary journey

of over 1,200 miles. Sunday, 13th November, we attended church and passed a very enjoyable day. Monday, 14th November, we were unable to cross the Saskatchewan river on account of some drifting ice that had broken loose from the shores and was on its way down stream, but on Tuesday we crossed the river in a small row-boat, the propelling power of which was two stalwart half-breeds, who thoroughly understand handling a boat. After crossing, Mr. Mair furnished us with transport teams and we started for the Shell River district, which is 25 miles west of Prince Albert. Along the first 10 miles of the road the country is rough and broken, but fairly well-wooded with poplar, spruce and jack pine of fair size. For the second ten miles the land is of first-class quality, but thickly covered with small poplar and large gray or diamond willow, some of which would make excellent firewood, among which there are a number of small lakes and fine hay meadows, which are covered with a luxuriant growth of wild hay from two to five feet in height. What is known as the Shell River district is a fine belt of splendid land which lies between the so-called Shell and Saskatchewan rivers. The land in this district is of first-class quality; the surface is a rich, moist, black alluvian soil, fully 18 inches in depth, which is underlain with a fine marly clay subsoil. There is no stone, and the land is very easily broken. The entire district has a beautiful rolling surface. The water is of first-class quality, of which there is an abundant supply. There is also an abundant supply of firewood, while good building timber can be found handy by. While here our small party of five located sixteen homesteads for ourselves and friends, of 160 acres each, making a sum total of 2,560 acres, and we did not locate a single farm that does not contain wood, water and first-class land, while most of them have from 10 to 40 acres of splendid hay meadow on them. There are also a number of fine small lakes in the district. There are a number of settlers already in the district, that came in last spring, and while here we saw some splendid samples of grain and vegetables which they had raised on this year's breaking. When leaving this district, on 20th November, all the farmers' cattle were still running on the prairie, picking their own living, and all we saw was in extra condition, and the farmers here tell us that they never think of feeding stock after the 1st of April. All markets are good for a new country, and we are satisfied that Western Canada is one of the finest mixed farming countries in the world, and we will move on to our new farms as soon as we can arrange our business so as to enable us to do so, and we would advise all farmers who are dissatisfied with their present surroundings, or looking for free farms for their children, to go and see Western Canada before they choose land elsewhere, and we are satisfied that they will never be sorry for their trip. Any man who is willing to work can soon make himself and family a good home on one of those free farms. There is also any amount of splendid railroad land for sale at reasonable prices and very easy terms—in close proximity to railroads. The people in Prince Albert district are all law-abiding citizens. The population of the city is probably 2,000. They have a fine brick jail, but not a single prisoner during our visit to the city.

We cannot close this report without thanking you for your kindness to us during our trip; also Mr. R. H. Mair and the Canadian Pacific Railroad people; and we all join in saying that everything you had previously told us we found to be correct, and we have no hesitation in saying that we think Western Canada is fully a better mixed farming country than you have represented it to be.

We are, dear sir, yours truly,

ANTON GREEN,

ANTON PRAIN,

DANIEL WOLOSIE,

Of Keene, Wis.

G. A. GOEBELL,

STEPHEN HAYNER,

Of Stevens Point, Wis.

MAINE AND NEW HAMPSHIRE MEN IN ALBERTA.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, May 5th, 1893.

Mr. E. G. WISWELL.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your enquiry in regard to our impressions of this country, we would say that it cannot be beaten for stock-raising and mixed farming; it is so vast that no man can grasp its possibilities.

To know and appreciate this part of the continent a man must come and see it.

Although this spring has been later than usual, yet we saw some seeding being done on April 24th, and also saw some wheat growing in the fields on May 1st.

The cattle and horses that had ranged all winter without feed or shelter, except what they could pick up, looked remarkably well.

We would advise young men or married men with some means to secure a free grant of 160 acres and begin life again in a country where nature has been so lavish of good things.

We beg to testify to your uniform kindness and attention during our trip from Maine and New Hampshire to the Canadian North-west, and to wish you every success.

Respectfully yours,

A. J. McMULLEN,
OLIVER LAMBERT,
FRANK HODGE,
ALBERT J. GRAPES,
WM. J. BAILEY.

A LETTER FROM MR. LAVALLEE, OF GLENCOE, MINN.

GLENCOE, McLEOD Co., MINN., May 4th, 1893.

T. G. PEARCE, Duluth.

DEAR SIR,—As I promised, I write to tell you what we thought of Northern Alberta after our trip.

We had no idea it was such a fine country, and we think that it has almost everything in itself that is needed to make a good farming country; the soil is deep and rich, hay plentiful, timber for fuel, building and fencing growing here and there in every direction, plenty of coal for those who prefer to burn it, and a pleasant healthy climate.

The sample of wheat which I have from Mr. Walker's farm, on the Beaver Hills, is admitted by good judges here to be superior to any raised in Minnesota last year.

While in Alberta I saw cattle which had been wintered in open sheds, and they looked in better condition than our Minnesota grain-fed cattle which had been stabled all winter.

Many of my neighbours are talking about going to see the prairies of Alberta.

Thanking you for having made our trip so agreeable to us.

Yours truly,

O. N. LAVALLEE.

P.S.—I forgot to mention that I bought a half-section of land, and my cousin entered for a homestead for himself and two of his friends.

100





Netman, Photographer.

NEBRASKANS PLEASED.

[WINNIPEG FREE PRESS, OCT. 2ND, 1892.]

An Address from the Delegates to Agent H. H. Smith.

H. H. Smith, agent for the Dominion immigration matters in Nebraska, for some time past, was presented yesterday with the following address by the visiting Nebraska delegates before their departure for the south:—

H. H. SMITH, Esq.,
Immigration Agent for Nebraska.

DEAR SIR,—We, the undersigned delegates from Nebraska, having come up under your charge, desire to say a few words, now that we are returning, in regard to our trip to Edmonton. By close examination, we find that it is all that a farmer could wish for. Plenty of wood, coal, first-class land and plenty of good water. As for a stock country it can't be beat. In fact, for a mixed farming country Northern Alberta has no equal. The specimens of wheat, barley and oats and all kinds of cereals we have seen are beyond our expectations. To persons living so far south as we do, it is hard to believe that the chief nourishments of life seem to grow to perfection so far north as we have been. We desire to express our thanks to the Government of Canada for the kind treatment we have received through its officials, especially from yourself, who by your untiring exertions, both by night and day, and your tact and zeal have, and are inducing by your thorough knowledge of Western Canada, so many old Canadians and others to come back to Canada. As a delegation we did not all expect to take land this trip, but we are all so well satisfied with the country that we intend to sell out as soon as possible in Nebraska and make Canada our future home. Although Mr. John Samis and C. McLaughlen, being on our delegation, are not here to sign their names, the fact of them having taken up land speaks for itself.

GEO. H. HANKS, Creighton, Nebraska.
JOHN F. HOWSE, Creighton, Nebraska.
E. BRANDENBURG, Creighton, Nebraska.
HENRY OLSON, Creighton, Nebraska.
O. SPEARSTEDD, Winnetoon, Nebraska.
A. F. BLANCHARD, Neligh, Nebraska.
WM. ROBINSON, Millerboro, Nebraska.
J. M. HART, Millerboro, Nebraska.
R. P. JOHNSON, Neligh, Nebraska.
C. H. HOOPER, Schuyler, Nebraska.
ROBERT SMITH, Schuyler, Nebraska.
A. J. WRIGHT, Schuyler, Nebraska.
PATRICK DOYLE, Schuyler, Nebraska.
ROBERT BROWN, Schuyler, Nebraska.
WM. PETERSON, Pilgar, Nebraska.
O. F. BRADEEN, Page, Nebraska.
J. R. WILLIAMS, Schuyler, Nebraska.

WHAT NEW ENGLAND MEN SAY ABOUT IT.

On the next day we started out in company with Mr. R. H. Mair, the Government agent at Prince Albert, to inspect the Carrot River and Stoney Creek districts, and we honestly believe that we are not exaggerating when we say that this is without doubt one of the finest, if not the finest country on the continent of America, as all the

requisites for successful farming are found here in great abundance and of a very fine class; the water is first-class and there is just enough timber for building purposes and fuel, without it being in the way for farming operations.

In conclusion, we wish to state, that the best evidence we can give of our entire satisfaction with the country is this, that as soon as we possibly can, we are going to sell out our property in the State of Maine and move to the great Canadian North-west, where we intend to take up land and make our future home, and our advice to every man is: "Go and do likewise."

A. H. PRICE, North Fryeburg, Maine.

F. A. RUSSELL, Andover, Maine.

We have had the pleasure of seeing that country and would advise those seeking homes to go and see for themselves. Any information we can give, will be cheerfully given.

J. V. SPOONER, Bakersfield, Vt.

JOHN LUMBRO, Belvedere, Vt.

C. H. BURT, Enosburgh Falls, Vt.

B. C. GALLUP, Sheldon, Vt.

A. W. GOFF, Richford, Vt.

WM. A. POLLARD, Westford, Vt.

We, the undersigned, after having visited the leading points in the Canadian North-west, where we made a careful study of the soil and climate and the condition of the people now settled there, are glad to say that the reports which we have read from time to time in the literature sent out by the Canadian Government did not in the least exaggerate the resources of the country. We are satisfied that the inducements held out, whereby the man with small means can secure for himself and family a good home, are not offered anywhere else on the continent, and can conscientiously advise any of our friends who are not satisfied with their present condition, to locate in the North-west Territories of Canada.

GEORGE TOMLINSON, Manville, R.I.

S. R. REID, Auburn, Maine.

L. D. LEWIS, Worcester, Mass.

T. B. SEEKINS, Pittsfield, Maine.

F. PELTIER, jr., Lewiston, Maine.

JAS. CRAIG, Dover, N.H.

AN ENGLISHMAN'S OPINION.

CHURCHBRIDGE, ASSA., May 26th, 1892.

I came to this country five years ago this spring. I have 43 acres in crop, viz.:—19 acres of wheat, 16 acres of oats, and 8 acres of barley, besides half an acre of potatoes. The soil is good and the country around here is well adapted for mixed farming. Dry firewood is becoming rather scarce but still plenty of green wood is left. I struck good water at a depth of 20 feet in 1887 and have had a plentiful supply ever since. The winter here is very cold at times, but on the whole I think the climate preferable to the English; for though we have some more severe weather we have a great deal much better. As to future prospects, I have no fear but that I can make a good living by farming out here, and have no desire to return to the Old Country to farm there as I consider I can do better here.

In proof that this is my candid opinion I have written to two of my brothers advising them to give up their farms in England and come out here and take up land near me.

HENRY ROBERTS.

Mr. F. W. Wright of Astwood Farm, Saltcoats, Assa., says in a letter :

"The land is excellent, being a deep black soil with gravel subsoil. I am surrounded by plenty of wood and have found excellent water at 16 feet; I am highly pleased with the climate, myself and family never having been in better health, the air being so dry and pure. I feel quite sure if a man coming to this country with a little capital and going in specially for cattle-raising, for there is no better grazing land anywhere, he would get on well; but, Sir, clerks and many others afraid of work should not think of coming here."

THE CITY CLERK OF PALOUSE HAS BEEN THERE.

PALOUSE, WASH., January 18th, 1893.

T. G. PEARCE, Esq., Dominion Immigration Agent.

DEAR SIR,—As an agent of the Dominion Government, it may interest you to know that I have visited the North-west portion of Canada for the purpose of investigating its resources and future prospects for agricultural and mineral developments, and I think I am fully warranted in saying that I was confronted by the most beautiful and apparently the best country for agricultural pursuits of any part of North America. The soil I think is of the richest character, durable and productive. Its prospects for mineral developments are extremely good. In regard to the general government of the Dominion of Canada, I could find no reason to complain; in fact, in my opinion, I fully believe that the Dominion regulations for the settler are far better than those of the United States. Your land laws are much more protective to the *bona fide* settler than are our own.

In conclusion, I will say that, considering all things necessary for a home, I know of no country where there are such inducements offered to the settler as those set forth in Alberta, Canada.

Respectfully yours,

B. F. SHIELDS, *City Clerk.*

THE TESTIMONY OF MR. JOHN CRIBBINS.

BURT, MICH., January 7th, 1893.

To JAMES ANDERSON, Chésaning, Mich.

DEAR SIR,—I am home on a visit, and I have no doubt but that you would like to know my idea of the Canadian North-west. After leaving you at Oak Lake, C. P. R., I went to work and threshed grain to the end of November, at \$2 per day. We threshed 54,500 bushels of grain during that time; the crop averaged about 20 bushels per acre in that district.

Since I have personally seen the grain on the field, and the threshing of the same, I am more than satisfied that I have a homestead in that country. In my opinion it is the home for the poor man, and nothing else can be expected from a country that has good soil, water and plenty of wood. I would advise all young men wishing to procure a free farm of 160 acres, to go to that country and examine it for themselves. The country cannot be too highly recommended. I have been interviewed by several young men in this district, and have told them to go with you next spring, and I have no doubt but that many will leave for there.

Yours truly,

JOHN CRIBBINS,

Burt P. O., Saginaw Co., Mich.

A SWEDISH WHO HAS TRIED BOTH COUNTRIES.

I, Andrew Ekman, hereby state that I am a Swede by birth. I came out to Minnesota in 1881. I lived in that State for six years. I moved from there with my family in 1888. I passed through Dakota looking up a place to locate. I did not find a convenient properous place where I could make a start with my family. When I reached the Canadian North-west I had no money to start in farming.

I took up a homestead about four miles from Fleming station, and have remained thereon with my family since October, 1889, permanently. I am now entitled to and am getting my patent for 160 acres of land. One of my sons has also a homestead entry for 160 acres of land. I have a good comfortable house for my family worth over \$350, stabling for my stock, consisting of nine head of cattle and three horses. I have also a granary and a well with an abundant supply of water. I have 90 acres ready to seed for next spring of 1893.

I had a fair crop of wheat last year (1892) although it was a dry season. The potato crop was good.

I consider my prospects are good and I am pleased I came to the Canadian North-west. It is a far better country than Minnesota, especially for a poor man. A man who is industrious will succeed well here.

As for Dakota, what I have seen of it, I prefer Manitoba.

With my stock and land in cultivation I am now in a fair way of succeeding.

Farmers with small capital have still a better chance of succeeding if they are industrious and will economize during the first few years.

I have property worth over \$2,000, clear of all debts.

There are five other Swedes near me doing as well and as well contented as myself.

ANDREW EKMAN.

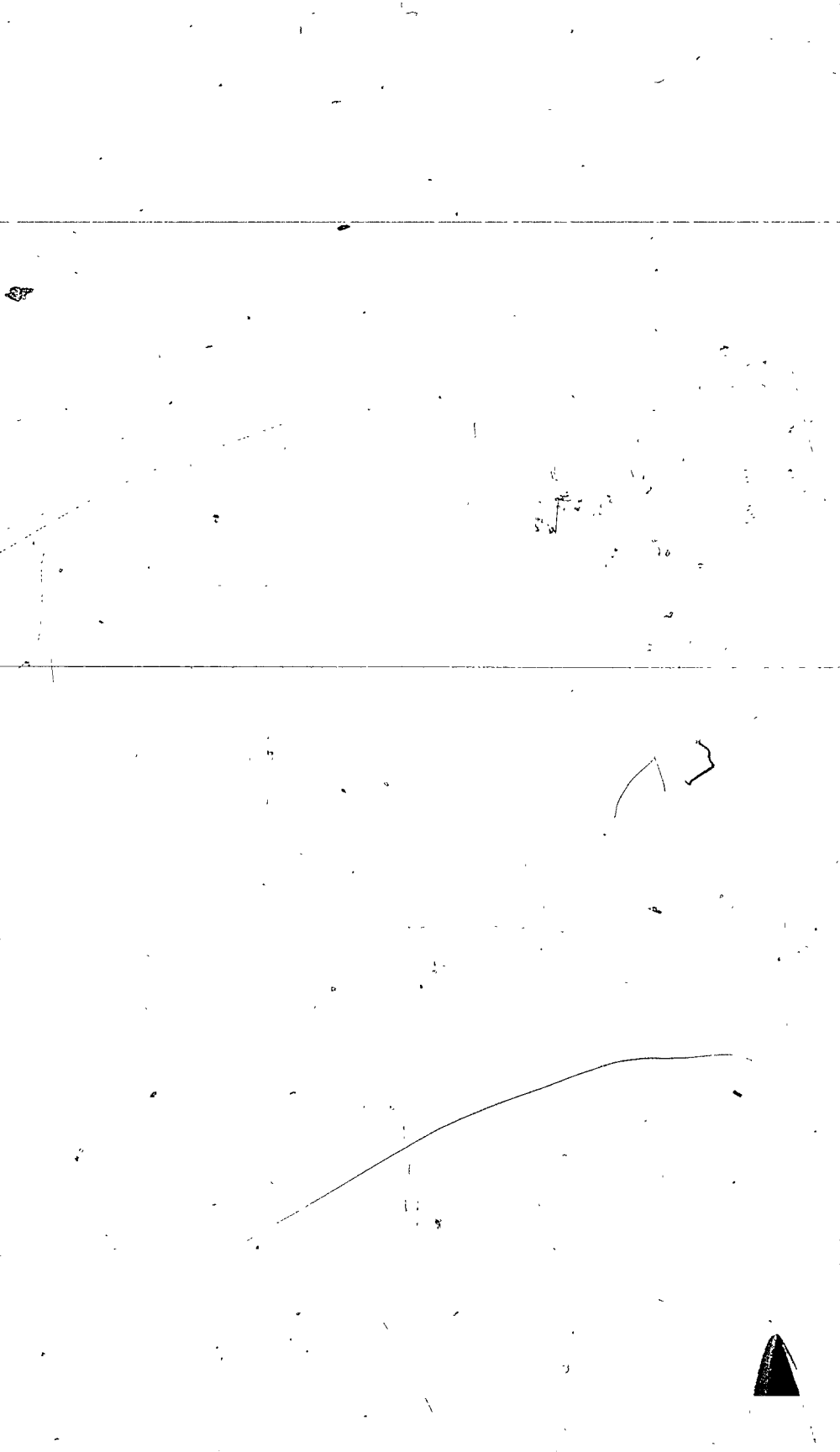
FLEMING, ASSINIBOIA, January 21st, 1893.

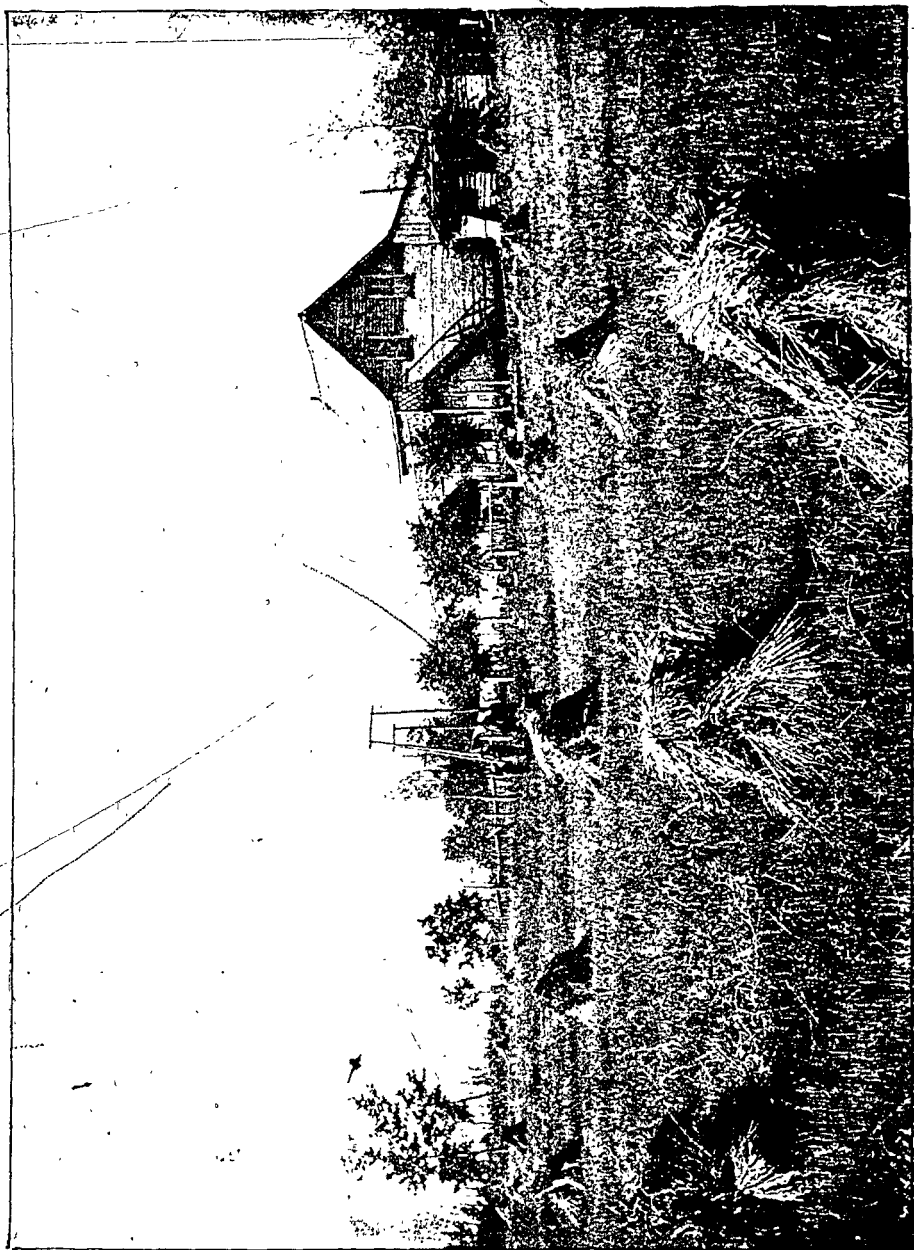
(From the Creighton, Neb., News.)

The following letter from Mr. Monroe, an old resident of Antelope county, speaks for itself:—

AGRICOLA, ALBERTA, CANADA, 14th February, 1893.

DEAR SIR,—I have been intending to write to you ever since I came here, but kept putting it off from time to time; now I will try and tell you all I know about this country. As you have been here during the summer, you know what it looks like. I presume you saw it when it was looking its best. I arrived here about the middle of September last and helped a while in harvest and threshing, so that I have seen what the yield of grain is like. I have helped harvest some of the finest wheat, oats and barley that I ever saw, and also some that was poor, also some that was nipped by the frost; but grain that was sown early escaped the frost all right. Some wheat went as high as 40 bushels per acre, but the general average was nearer 25 bushel, I think. I looked the country over pretty well before I located. I took a trip around by Beaver Lake and from thence south to the Hay Lake country and back to Edmonton. I am very favourably impressed with the country, and from what I have seen I am convinced that all that is necessary to make this a good, prosperous country is to get it settled by the right class of people. We have all the natural advantages, good soil, good climate, but the growing season rather short, but the quickness of the growth makes up for the shortness of the season: good water and plenty of fuel. While I think this a good country, it is no Garden of Eden; people coming here must not expect too much, but those who will come with some means to make a start and who are willing to work hard and put up with the inconveniences always met with in a new country, can make a good home for themselves and be well rewarded for their trouble. I saw Mr. Owens only once since he came. I have settled in the Beaver Hills, about 24 miles north-east from





PRICE'S WHEAT FIELD—EDMONTON, ALBERTA.

© Notman, Photographer.

Edmonton. The number of my land is sect. 34, tp. 53, r. 21; if you have a map you can see how far I am from your section. I have built a log house on my place, but no stable yet, as I have no stock. I am not staying at home much. If Robert comes, he will be welcome to live in the house. I think, however, they would be foolish to come before spring or 15th March, as they could not do much, and they would have to pay high for hay, \$5 a ton, and some at least would have to rent houses to live in and I notice that rent in Edmonton is very high, in fact newcomers will have to pay high for everything; potatoes are going to be high and scarce in the spring. Settlers should bring some with them when possible, also their hens as it is almost impossible to buy hens here. The greater part of the winter has been very fine, but we had three or four weeks of very cold weather, but not stormy. I have not seen a severe snow storm this winter though we have two feet of snow, it fell a few inches at a time. There is very little wind but it freezes intensely hard, but upon the whole I would rather winter here than in Nebraska. I will close this; if there is any information I can give you or anything I can do for you, let me know. Will be glad to hear from you soon. My respects to Mrs. Swan.

I remain your friend,

ALLEN MONROE.

(From the Richford, Vt., Gazette, of 2nd December, 1892.)

A PRODUCTIVE TWO ACRES.

Mr. B. C. Gallup of North Sheldon was one of the party who accompanied the party last summer from this section to the Canadian North-west. During his stay in Winnipeg Mr. Gallup visited a nephew—H. A. Chadwick—who keeps a hotel at Silver Heights, about five miles from Winnipeg, and on his return home told such marvellous stories of the productiveness of the soil there that Mr. D. J. Waggoner, who was in charge of the party, wrote Mr. Chadwick for full particulars, which are given in the following letter, under the date of Nov. 24.

Mr. WAGGONER:—

"DEAR SIR,—Your letter to hand. I would say in reply that I had a field of about two acres in it that the corn grew on, so will tell you what I raised on this field. I sold my corn to market gardeners at 8c. per dozen, and they sold it in the city for green corn. I sold \$133 worth, and we used all we wanted in my own hotel, and I now have about 25 baskets on hand. I sold 65 bushels of onions at \$1.25 per bushel; 20 bushels of parsnips at \$1 per bushel; two hundred bushels of potatoes, which are worth 35 cents per bushel here now; 10 bushels of turnips; and I sold \$27 worth of pumpkins and Hubbard squashes besides a lot that I fed to pigs. So think this crop paid me very well. We can beat the world on raising onions or any root crop. I had as fine a crop of tomatoes this year as I ever saw anywhere. Had 50 pails of red currants in my garden this year, and they sold readily at \$1 per pail. I also raised plenty of plums and gooseberries. It is only a matter of a few years when there will be plenty of apples grown."

Yours truly,

H. A. CHADWICK.

(From the Alpena, Mich., Pioneer.)

THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

A LETTER FROM A PRESQUE ISLE COUNTY FARMER WHO HAS BEEN THERE.

ONAWAY, Jan. 19, 1893.

DEAR SIR,—I have been to the Alberta district, N.W.T., and have looked over the country from Olds to Edmonton, and am just in love with that country. I examined every feature of the country pertaining to mixed farming, and believe it to be unsurpassed. I have located near Wetaskiwin, three quarter-sections, one for myself and each of my boys, and have locations for some of my neighbours on homestead and C.P. R.R. lands. I will buy one quarter section of C.P.R.R. lands when I get there if possible.

When I arrived home I found all well, and have had plenty of callers. I did not think there were so many of my neighbors that were waiting for me to come back to hear about that country. There were five men here this afternoon that live about ten miles away, and when I told them about the country they all said they were going out in the spring, and wanted me to get full particulars concerning rates for passengers, and what a car would cost from Cheboygan. One man has five boys old enough to take land, and several other neighbours say they are going out in the spring. I expect to make entry for land for some of my neighbors if the land is not taken before our application is in.

It is just wonderful, the families that are coming to that country. We have made up our minds to go, whether we sell or not, and will take all the stock we are allowed to take in one car.

I believe I now know more about the advantages and features of that country than many who have lived there for a year or more. I will write to you later.

N. NEWSTED,

Onaway, Presque Isle Co., Mich.

A FRENCH-CANADIAN WHO HAS TRIED THE STATES AND FINDS WESTERN CANADA A BETTER COUNTRY.

OAK LAKE, MAN., Dec. 30th, 1892.

I, Eugène Benoit, of section 10-8-24, west 1st meridian, county of Dennis, Province of Manitoba, state, that I came here from the Province of Quebec in 1889, (County of Drummond). I had lived in the State of Vermont, U.S. I had about \$800 of a capital. I had a family. I took up a homestead and bought another 160 acres of land near by. I have a good claim for stock-raising, and a good quarter-section for wheat-raising. I have 100 acres in cultivation now, and a comfortable house. I have 7 head of cattle and 5 horses; all the farm machinery, plough, harrows, binder, seeder, wagons, &c., also a steam thresher.

I am satisfied with the locality and the change from the State of Vermont. The prospects here are better.

EUGÈNE BENOIT.

N.B.—It is learned on good authority that this settler is worth over \$2,500 now.

(From the "Quill" Schuyler, Neb., 29th March, 1893.)

HO! FOR ALBERTA!

COLFAX COUNTY'S DELEGATION LEAVES FOR THEIR NORTHERN HOME WITH GOOD WISHES,
ALTHOUGH SORROWFUL FRIENDS SHED TEARS AT PARTING.

On Tuesday evening, at 10.30 o'clock, the freight cars containing the Alberta delegation's effects was pulled out, and that was the starting. There were eight car loads from Schuyler, five from Leigh, and six from Rogers joined in one train to haul the goods to the Canadian destination, being at Olds, Alberta territory.

Of the eight carloads from this point the following is the list of owners, goods, and persons in charge :—

Ed. Bame's car was in charge of William Rathbun. He had 7 horses, 6 pigs, 13 dozen chickens, 16 ducks, 4 turkeys, 2 dogs, and his grain, hay, household goods and machinery.

J. seph Edmison's car was in charge of A. C. Judd and Nels Petersen. Edmison had 4 horses, Judd 2, and Petersen 2. There was grain, hay, household goods, machinery, etc., in.

Robert Smith's car was in charge of his son Dan. He had 8 horses, 2 dozen chickens, some ducks and turkeys, farming implements, household goods, grain, and feed.

Roderick McRae's car was in charge of his son Dan, and 5 horses, 1 hog, a few chickens, hay, grain, household goods, and farming implements filled the space. Mr. McRae and family will go in about a month, as his wife's health is poor at present and travelling is out of the question.

Thomas Preston's car was in charge of Al. Lawrence. It was filled with grain, hay, household goods, farming implements, a hay press, 5 horses, 2 hogs, and some smaller articles. Hay pressing will be a new industry, we suppose.

John McIntosh's car was in charge of Nels Olsen, who had his team and wagon in. McIntosh had 14 horses in all (having some in another car), two pigs, some ducks, grain, hay, household goods and implements.

Al. Will and Ellsworth Lawrence had two cars, and while Al. went with Preston's car, Will and Ellsworth took charge of their two. They had in all 16 horses, some chickens, household goods, machinery, grain, hay, etc.

It will be noticed that no cattle were taken. This was on account of the Canadian quarantine. Cattle will be held at the line for ninety days on account of the precaution used against disease. Some will have their cattle driven up later on, while others will buy in Manitoba and ship from there. The cars will arrive at Manitoba about as soon as the passengers, who left on Tuesday at 1.30 o'clock in the afternoon.

At Leigh, H. P. Moore had two carloads, R. D. McKee two, and W. P. Cornwell one.

At Rogers, C. McLaughlin, George Groat, John Samis, James Samis, James Coventry and Mr. Hilbert were the emigrants.

On Tuesday the excitement of the departure was greater, and while many watched the freight people off, the crowd was out on Tuesday. A car was set off on the side track above the depot for the use of the men, women and children, and around that during the last hour friends and relatives gathered to bid good-bye. Many tears were shed as families were separated, some to remain here while others went. Old neighbours shook hands and said good-bye, and men who had been early settlers of Colfax county parted after being neighbours for a score of years. Good wishes went with all. It was a sad scene for friends parted, probably never more to meet. It was a long farewell with many. Joking, talking and laughing was the order with many, yet within a heavy weight seemed to collect and the farewell was more sad than it appeared.

At Schuyler there were Joseph Edmison, wife and five children, John McIntosh, wife and two children, Alex. McRae, Robert Smith, wife and six children, Ed. Bame, wife and five children, Mrs. Rathbun, Thomas Preston, wife and five children, and A. L. Ramsey, wife and three children, while Mrs. H. P. Moore, Mrs. Cornwell and children, and Mrs. McKee and children were from Wilson precinct to go. At Rogers more passengers were added to the number.

James Coventry and family will go soon, and goods were already shipped. John Lawrence left on Wednesday to join his family, who are in Iowa visiting, and meet the regular delegation at Winnipeg. This was the first load only, as many more will follow.

The *Quill* editor is, indeed, sorry to see them leave. It is just that many friends goin'. Among these are men who have stood by and encouraged this paper from start till now and it follows them. Every family is to receive the *Quill* and we hope that it will be a visitor which brings good news and good cheer. They are among Colfax county's very best families, honest and industrious. No dead-beats are among them. They leave with no debts behind and looking everybody in the face. With such people Alberta must prosper. We regret to see so many friends leave, but can only wish them well.

(Extract from Chicago "Times," 3rd January, 1892.)

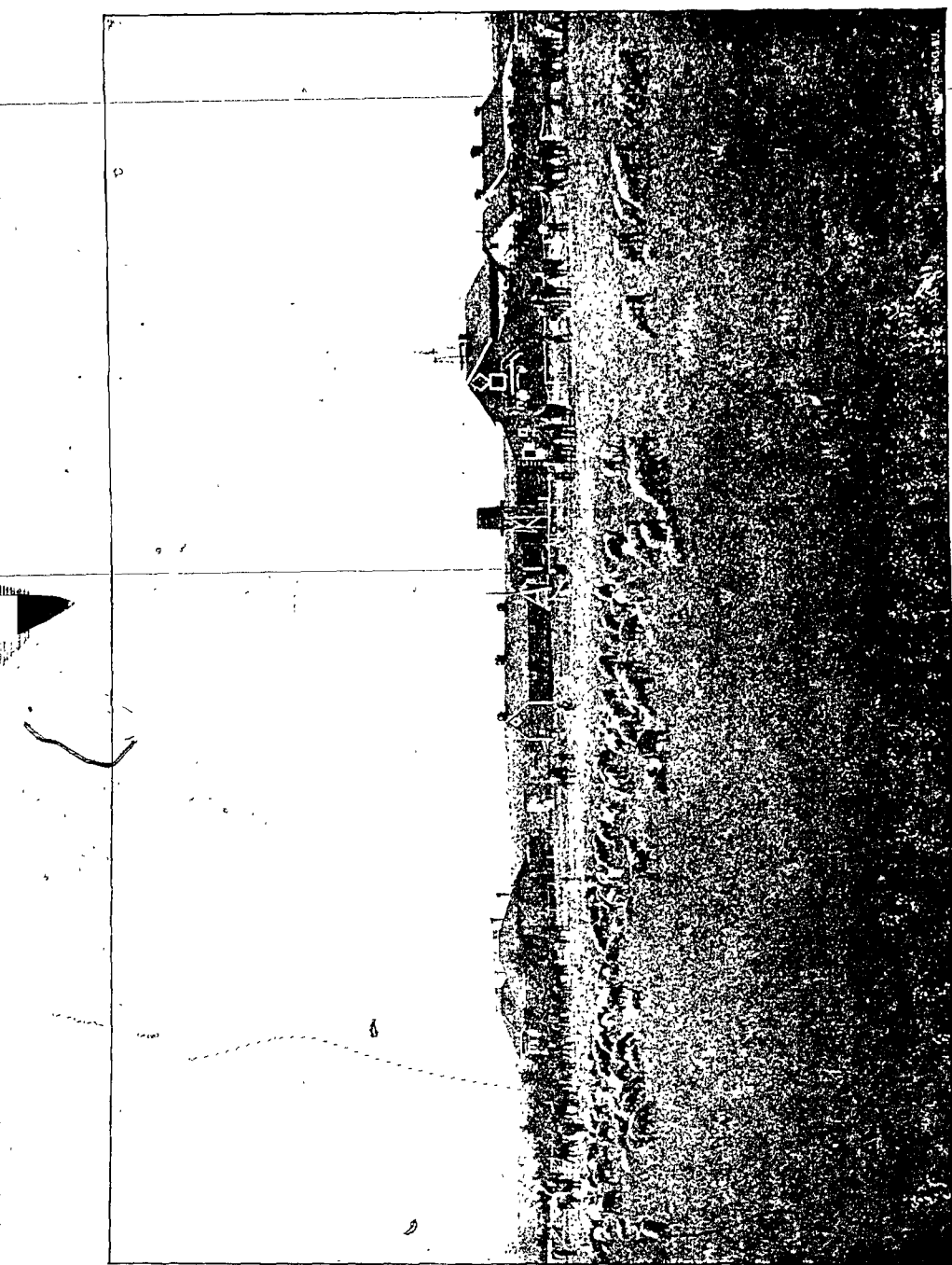
We reproduce the following from the Chicago "Times" of 3rd January, 1892, as emanating from so reliable an authority, it cannot fail to be of interest to the intending emigrants:—

"Notwithstanding his proverbial shrewdness, the average American is at fault when dealing with the resources and territorial extent of central Canada. The great majority of writers and speakers in the United States are prone to consider the arable portion of the territory a mere strip running along the international boundary line. Why this is it is hard to say, but partially probably because of the recent entrance, so to speak, of these districts into the society of civilized communities. As is well known, the Canadian Pacific road was not completed till 1885; hence the greater part of this wide region was not thoroughly accessible to explorers and settlers until that time. In view, then, of this prevailing ignorance, it may be interesting to cite a few facts regarding the area and natural resources of this north-western portion of the continent.

"A line running 1,000 miles from north to south, and another of equal length from east to west, does not reach the borders of this rolling, park-like plain, whose uniform adaptability to agriculture and stock-raising is now verified by experience. But we will not in this article go behind the points reached by the great western pioneer—the railway train, and accordingly fully accessible to settlers. The district thus equipped embraces an area of nearly 500,000 square miles. What this area means is made plain by the statement that out of it might be carved no less than eight States, each the size of Illinois, and then a good slice to spare.

"This continent cannot produce a soil superior in fertility to the rich black loam soil of Manitoba (area, 123,200 square miles), and, with local exceptions, such as morass or a belt of hills, the same applies to the whole territory above designated. The yield of wheat per acre has run from twenty to forty and forty-five bushels, of the world-famous "Manitoba hard" wheat, while the harvest of the present year may be described as the crowning effort of a record-breaking soil, fifty to sixty bushels to the acre being recorded in many cases. This wondrous fertility, coupled with the vast extent of territory equally adapted to wheat-raising, warrants authorities on wheat culture in prophesying that inside of fifty years central Canada will be the world's bread-maker.

"It will readily be understood that a soil so fertile naturally produces grasses in great variety and unsurpassed in quantity and quality, insuring an ever-plentiful supply of fodder for domestic cattle. This never-failing supply of nutritious grass, the plentiful supply of pure, running water, the sheltering bluffs of timber, as well as immunity from cyclones in summer and snowstorms in winter, combine the properties which make Alberta one of the finest ranching districts on the continent. Stock-raising is carried on with equal success in the other provinces, and Manitoba beef and dairy products have already an enviable reputation on the European market."



BOUVERIE AND ROUTLEDGE'S RANCH—VIRDEX, MANITOBA.

Xolma, Photographer.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS BY HON. C. H. HARRISON, EX-MAYOR OF CHICAGO, TO THE CHICAGO "MAIL."

"Manitoba is a grand province. From the boundary, stretching north about 150 miles by 120 miles east and west, it is a splendid small-grain country. The land is not held by great individual owners or by syndicates, but in small holdings, rarely larger than a section, and generally not larger than a half. The farms are much better cultivated than in Minnesota. The fields are much freer from weeds and the crops better than anything I saw in the States, except a small section near Crookston. I was told the expectation was an average crop of 25 bushels to the acre. Some fields, I thought in passing, would nearly touch 40 bushels. At Winnipeg we boarded the Canadian Pacific. For a considerable distance the country is perfectly flat, but the soil of great depth; ditches will make it all finely arable. From Portage la Prairie west, the surface of the prairie is undulating, often high-rolling, and on to Virden, 109 miles, is as beautiful prairie as one could wish to see. North and south in this belt the same characteristics, I was told by a well-informed gentleman, extended from the United States line to the northern limits of the province.

"What cunning chaps the Hudson Bay company people were! For long years they told the world that this was a region only fit for fur-bearing animals. And now that the iron horse has snatched the reins from this great cormorant, we find in this great North-west a country capable of supporting millions of happy agricultural people. Rivers abound, running in deep-cut banks, into which the lowest and flattest land can be drained. Wood is not so far off that it cannot be had in sufficient quantities for domestic purposes, and coal fields lie so close to the water-courses that it can be transported by water if the rail fails to do the work. In the summer season the sun pours down a flood of heat. My alpaca coat was quite sufficient when standing on the platform, and from 10 to 5. I was constantly tempted to unbutton my vest. The nights are cool now, and, we are told, are always so. The people are thriving, and the Canadian Pacific Company has built a road with which none of our transcontinental railroads can compare. It is thoroughly laid, smooth, and finely ballasted. The depots or stations are built with taste, and the bridges are erected with great strength. In the far west, experimental farms are worked so as to give the emigrant actual knowledge of what the soil is capable of producing.

"Cattle ranches are scattered over the country. After leaving the wheat land, near Virden, I saw far off on the prairie a lady galloping with long skirt on a horse with banded tail. Habitations became scarce and ranches few. Many lakes were passed, covered with geese and duck. Sometimes we could see young broods of the latter, about the size of partridges, on small streams not over 20 feet from our train. The plain is now the Coteau de Missouri, but is not arid, as the same plain is on the Northern Pacific road. The whole country is pleasantly green, with patches of town diversifying the landscape.

"At Medicine Hat, 660 miles west of Winnipeg, we crossed the south fork of the Saskatchewan River. Here, and for a long distance, it is a navigable, fine stream, some 400 yards wide. Above this place some 50 to 100 miles are fine coal fields. The coal looked very pure, and one look assured me it was the best cooking coal in America. Before night we should have seen the Rockies, but did not, because of the smoky atmosphere. Sixty miles from their foot lies Calgary, a town of 2,000 people, the centre of the great ranche district, where ranches of many thousand horses abound. The grazing country is said to be very fine, and extends far south down into Montana. The plains here are very fine and the bunch grass is pretty green. It grows good wheat but better grass."

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER BY THE LATE UNITED STATES CONSUL AT WINNIPEG.

To many of the farmers living in the western and middle States, the severe climate of the North-west, the "cold winters," is a serious question. They cannot understand how a country so far north as they seem to think it is can be suitable for mixed farming,

wheat-growing or stock-raising. The reports given in this pamphlet of those who have visited the country will doubtless satisfy most persons on this point, but should there still be any doubt in the mind of any we would refer to an able and exhaustive letter from the gifted pen of no less an authority than the late United States consul at Winnipeg, the Hon. James W. Taylor, which was published in the *New York Sun*. In this letter the esteemed consul proved that in the great northern and western country of which the pamphlet treats not only is there millions of acres of rich arable land, but that because of its northern latitude it is more especially adapted to wheat-raising than the more southerly situated lands.

Space will not permit a full publication of the Hon. Consul Taylor's letter, but we give below a few extracts from it, which perhaps, will be of value to the reader.

The consul opened his letter with the following significant paragraph:—

"The area of the wheat district of Central Canada, between Hudson's Bay and Lake Superior for its eastern and the Rocky Mountains for its western boundary, and latitudes 50° to 60°, has been ascertained to be of uniform productiveness; and by no means a narrow selva beyond the international boundary, as intimated by Mr. C. Wood Davis in a recent contribution to the *Arena*. The summary of this grand parallelogram of cereal growth and maturity is a series of facts and inferences which is the result of considerable experience and observation as a United States consul at Winnipeg. Let us first consider the broader area of north-west America extended beyond the prairie division to the Arctic and Pacific Oceans, and trace on the map of North America the area enclosed between longitudes 100° and 170° west of Greenwich and latitudes 50° to 70°—a fourth of the continent—embracing the Canadian provinces, present and prospective, of Manitoba, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Keewatin, Mackenzie, Athabasca, Alberta and British Columbia, and the American territory and future State of Alaska. How little conception have we from present developments of what the twentieth century will witness over this vast realm of nature. It will assist our prophetic vision to compare an equal area on the map of Europe identical in climate and other natural manifestations. Trace 70° of longitude—60° east and 10° west of Greenwich—and from latitude 50° to 70°, and mark the relations of man to earth. The European parallelogram includes England, Ireland, Scotland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, and most of Germany and Russia in Europe, represented by the cities of London, Liverpool, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Berlin, St. Petersburg, Moscow, Nijni-Novgorod and Archangel."

And then, after citing a large number of important facts, and giving the experience of the highest authorities in the country as to the fertility of the soil, the nutritiousness of its grasses, its pre-eminent adaptability to wheat-raising, the consul gives the opinion of the late Dr. Samuel Forry, a writer of eminence in the American "*Journal of Geology*," as follows:—

"He states as a universal fact that the cultivated plants yield the greatest product near the northernmost limit at which they will grow. His illustrations embrace nearly every plant known to commerce and used either for food or clothing. Cotton, a tropical plant, yields the best staple in the temperate latitudes. Flax and hemp are cultivated through a great extent of latitude, but the lint in southern latitudes, forced into premature maturity, acquires neither consistency nor tenacity, and we must go to the north of Europe to find these plants in perfection. Rice is tropical, yet Carolina and Florida grow the finest in the world. Indian corn is a sub tropical plant, but it produces the heaviest crops near the northernmost limits of its range. In the West Indies it rises 30. feet, but produces only a few grains on the bottom of a spongy cob, and is regarded only as a cough provender for cattle. In the rich lands of the middle States it will often produce 50 to 60 bushels to the acre, but in New York and in New England agricultural societies have actually awarded premiums for 125 bushels to the acre. Wheat is a more certain crop in New York, in northern parts of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and the Baltic districts of Europe, than in the south, either of Europe or America. In the spring it is not forced too rapidly into head before it has time to mature fully or concoct its farina. Oats grow in almost every country, but it is in northern regions only, or very moist or elevated tracts, that they fill with farina suitable for human sustenance. Rye, barley, buckwheat, millet, and other culmiferous plants might be adduced to illustrate the

above principle, for all their habits require a more northern latitude than is necessary to their mere growth. The grasses are in perfection only in northern or cool regions, although they will grow anywhere. It is in the north alone that we raise animals from meadows, and are enabled to keep them fat and in good condition from hay and grass without grain. It is there the grasses acquire succulence and consistency enough, not only to mature animals, but to make the richest butter and cheese. The tuberose, bulbous and other roots cultivated for human and animal subsistence are similarly affected by climate, and manifest habits in corroboration of the above principle. The Irish potato, although from or near the tropics, will not come to perfection but in northern or cool countries, or in moist insular situations, as in Ireland. It is in such climates only that its roots acquire a farinaceous consistence and have size, flavour and nutriment enough to support animal life in the eminent way in which they are susceptible. In the south a forcing sun brings the potato to fructification before the roots have had time to attain their proper qualifications for nourishment.

"So for the suggestive illustrations of Dr. Forry, but I will venture to add a further instance from the central wheat district of North America. At its southern margin in Minnesota and Iowa seldom more than two well-formed grains are found in each cluster or fascicle forming the row; in northern Minnesota, Dakota and Manitoba three grains become habitual; and from heads of wheat brought to me from Prince Albert, on the Saskatchewan, and Fort Vermilion, on the Peace River, I have separated five well-formed grains from each cluster or group forming the head, which is decisive evidence that the perfection of the wheat plant is attained near the most northern limit of its successful growth."

THE TESTIMONY OF PRESIDENT J. J. HILL.

Memo. of evidence given by Mr. James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway of St. Paul, Minnesota, before a committee of the House of Commons of Canada in March, 1877. After discussing at great length the question of transportation and rates for the exportation of wheat to the sea-board and for the carrying of settlers from the sea-board into the North-west country, Mr. Hill proceeds to compare the Dakotas and Minnesota with the Canadian North-west. In answer to a question put by Mr. Bain, Mr. Hill said:—

"Take at the present time the place where the Mennonites settled at New Odessa, in Dakota, just north of Yankton. They went up there at the same time that your Mennonites went to Manitoba. A number remained in the United States and settled in southern Dakota, and the place where they settled they called New Odessa. It was named by themselves. They paid 29 cents to carry their wheat to Duluth. That is the rate to Duluth from Yankton. That section of the country is being rapidly settled up, and it is a rich agricultural section; but they have not as good land, and they have not the same amount of good land that they have in the Province of Manitoba; it is not as good. I have been over the country, and I am familiar with it; I know both Manitoba and that country. They are also more liable in Dakota, being closer to the sage brush country, to visitations from locusts. This country is also more easily affected by drought than Manitoba, and by dry seasons; it is a prairie country, and the Province of Manitoba is pretty well watered.

"By Mr. Hagar:

"Q. And the soil is not equal to the soil on Red River?—A. No; you will not find it in any other place on the American continent as good as it is in Manitoba, unless it be in a little place on the Wabash, a short distance from Miami, nearly opposite St. Louis, called the Illinois bottom; but anywhere else I have never seen any soil so rich as it is along the Red River.

"By the Chairman :

"Q. You have travelled very extensively?—A. I have been in every State in the Union, I think, except in the Pacific States.

"Q. And for a settler to make a comfortable home for himself, you would prefer Manitoba to any other place?—A. The soil in the Red River valley is, to my mind, the richest farming country that I have ever seen. It is not only rich, but it has also bright prospects."

After speaking at some length upon the superior quality of the flour made at the Minneapolis mills from the wheat grown in Minnesota and Dakota, Mr. Hill said: "The same statement applies to Manitoba, but only in a greater degree, because a superior quality of wheat is grown in Manitoba, it being further north. You have seen the samples, and you know if you have tried it in the hand, or between the teeth, that it is hard wheat; and Manitoba is a country which is peculiarly adapted to the growth of that quality. The quantity raised will not make any difference; the whole country might go to the growing of this wheat, and it would not even affect the price, because there is always a demand for good flour, and this is a locality that must raise it.

"Q. Do roots grow very successfully there, such as potatoes, turnips, beets, &c.?—A. I do not know that there is any country that will surpass Manitoba for the growth of roots of all kinds—potatoes, turnips and beets especially. I think that potatoes do better there than in any other place that I have ever seen."

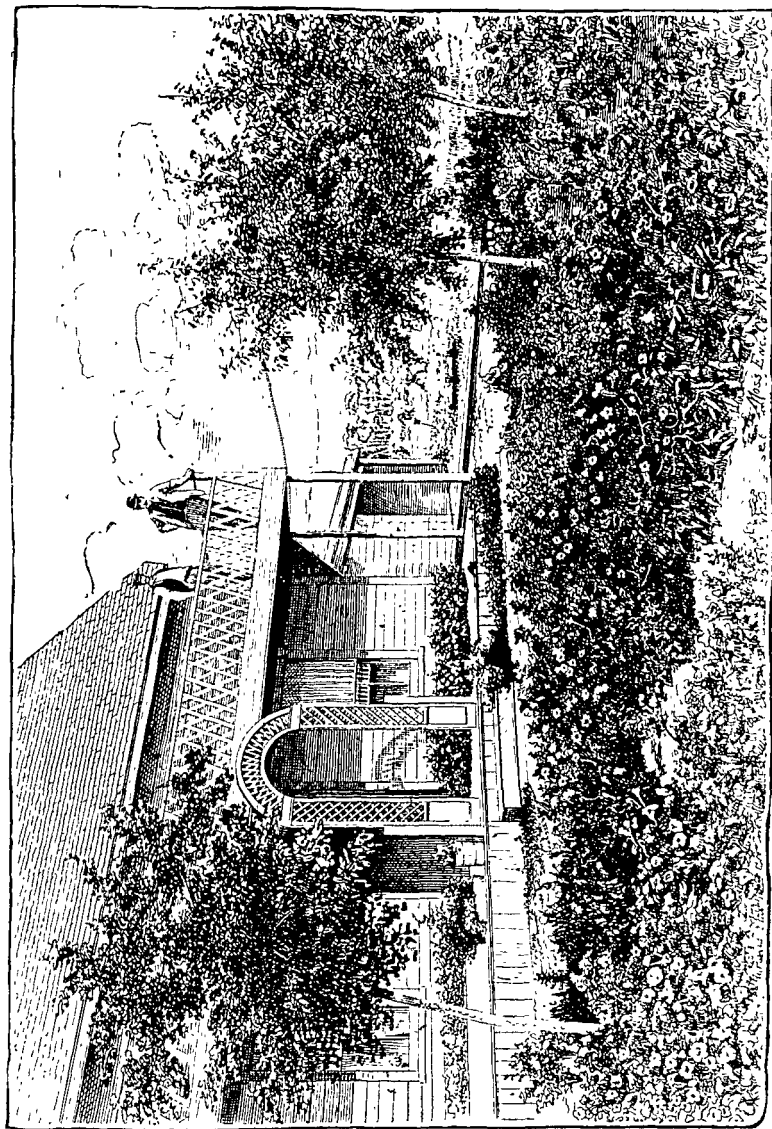
THE KIND OF MEN WE ARE GETTING.

(Winnipeg Free Press.)

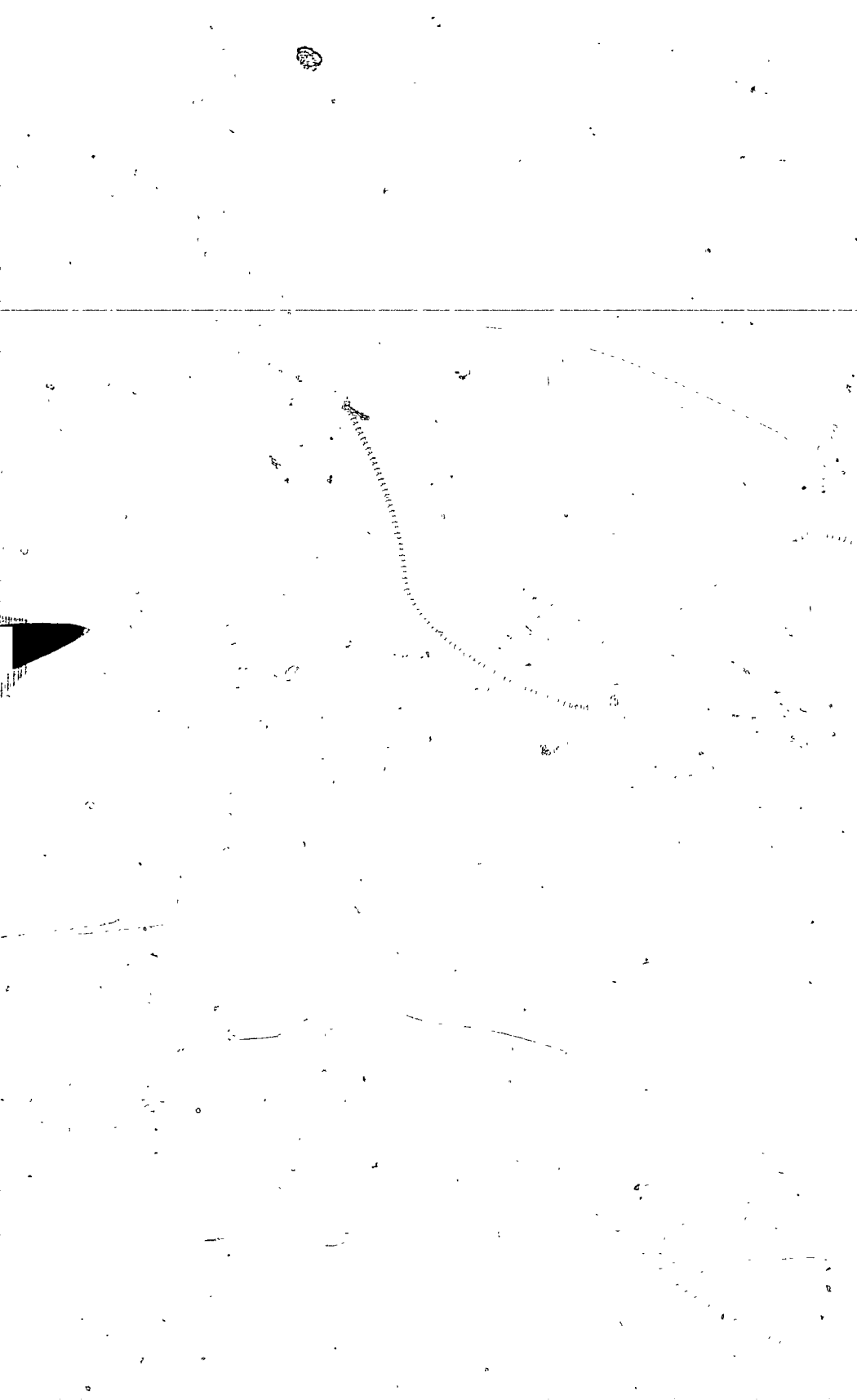
"SOLID NEBRASKA SETTLERS.

"THE LATEST ARRIVALS HAVE CAPITAL AND STOCK TO WORK NORTH-WEST FARMS.

"James Gadsden, of Schuyler, Neb., U.S., arrived in Winnipeg Saturday last, having in charge ninety persons, all from his vicinity in Nebraska. They are principally early settlers of that state, who have recently sold their farms at prices ranging from \$30 to \$41 per acre, and have with them \$30,000 in hard cash, besides seventeen car-loads of effects, consisting of sixty-eight fine large horses, and household goods and farming tools, worth \$1,000 a car. In addition to this, their cattle and some horses will be driven northward as soon as grass starts, this last-mentioned stock being worth \$10,000 to \$15,000 more. Eighty of this party go to Old Station, fifty-eight miles north of Calgary, on fine lands they have purchased of the Calgary and Edmonton Railway Company, through their agents, Messrs. Osler, Hammond & Nanton, of Winnipeg. A large number of the best class of American farmers and Canadians coming home, Mr. Gadsden says, may be expected from Eastern Nebraska the coming summer. The quarantine regulations are not looked upon as so great a hardship as at first, owing to the Government providing for the stock free of charge for ninety days. After placing these parties on their land Mr. Gadsden expects to return to Nebraska and remain there until May 20th to assist in starting the settlers' stock northward which has been left behind."



FARM HOUSE AND GARDEN NEAR EDMONTON, ALBERTA.



HINTS TO INTENDING SETTLERS.

Surely, if any evidence is convincing, the foregoing, taken as a whole must be; and now, without further comment, we will give a few suggestions for the benefit of those who may desire to visit the Canadian North-west, either to make a personal examination of it themselves before finally deciding to settle, or who, being satisfied with the unimpeachable testimony of so many well-qualified parties, desire to come at once and settle:

1st. Read carefully the statements contained in this pamphlet and note what those have said who have visited the country.

2nd. Write to any of the addresses given below and ask for copies of other publications, such as Government maps and pamphlets.

On reading such pamphlets you will find that almost all questions affecting the country are fully and clearly answered in them.

If, however, there remain some points not made clear, a line to any of the addresses given will bring the necessary information.

3rd. Everything which a farmer has for his own use, and which he has had in use not less than six months prior to leaving for Canada, will be admitted *free of duty*. This applies to settlers' effects, household goods, farming utensils, etc., but it is not intended to permit any person to bring in goods for the purpose of selling them after arrival, nor is it intended to cover large herds of stock, which would be brought in either for the purpose of starting a ranch or for slaughtering, but it is intended to cover everything which the settler has had, and which he still requires for his own use.

4th. It is not necessary to become a Canadian citizen in order to homestead land, but in order to vote a person must become a citizen by naturalization if he is not one already by birth.

5th. Any person who is the head of a family or any male eighteen years of age may homestead and obtain a patent after three years' residence and performing the homestead duties, and by paying \$10 entry fee. For full information see "Homestead Laws" and "Land Regulations" as published.

6th. Arrangements are made with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for reduced rates to Winnipeg and other points to which settlers wish to go in the North-west. These rates will be available from Montreal, Sault Ste. Marie, Emerson, Gretna, and other points along the international boundary line, where it is most convenient for settlers to cross.

7th. We are often asked the question, "What part of the country would you advise me to settle in?" That is a difficult question to answer, and one that can only be satisfactorily answered by the settler himself. So much depends upon the requirements of the settler, as to what kind of country he would like, whether he would like mixed farming, wheat farming, or stock-raising; whether he has a family and would like a district fairly well settled, with churches, schools, etc., or whether he would like to take up a free "homestead" or purchase railway or private lands. If you are in doubt on this point, the better way is not to decide until you reach Winnipeg, where you will soon be able, with the advice and assistance of the proper authorities, to make a choice, or where, if necessary, you can easily take a run out and see for yourself before deciding. All trains are met on arrival at Winnipeg by properly authorized officials, who will direct you to the proper parties for information. Ample accommodation is

provided for all who wish to avail themselves of it, in the Dominion Government immigration hall, which is close beside the depot.

All are given a hearty invitation to "come and see" for themselves, and a warm welcome upon their arrival.

For further information and particulars apply to the party whose name and address will be written or stamped on the title-page of the pamphlet; or to any of the Government land immigration agents in Manitoba or the North-west; to the Department of Interior, Ottawa, Ontario; to the land departments of the Canadian Pacific and Manitoba and North-western Railway companies, Winnipeg; or to the

COMMISSIONER OF DOMINION LANDS,

AT WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

(Read the Appendix.)

APPENDIX.

HON. W. D. PERLEY'S EXPERIENCE.

CAUSES OF FAILURE AND SUCCESS IN NORTH-WEST FARMING.

The Hon. Senator Perley, of Perley Farm, near Wolseley, Assiniboia, has been nearly eleven years in the North-west Territories, and has been farming for four years at his present place of residence. He is a practical farmer, and in the course of an interview with the editor of this pamphlet stated as follows:—

"There is no use disguising the fact that a large number of persons who have gone into Manitoba and the North-west Territories, from other parts of the world, have made a failure of farming, but the causes have invariably been one of the following:—

"1. The persons concerned never farmed before, and had no practical knowledge of the business; or,

"2. They may have farmed in Eastern Canada, or elsewhere, but found the system of farming they had been accustomed to unsuited to the North-west, and they did not adapt themselves to the changes required by the altered condition of things in which they found themselves placed; or,

"3. Although practical farmers, and acquainted with the requirements for successful farming in the North-west, they acted upon theories of their own, devoting themselves for example exclusively to the growing of Red Fyfe wheat, instead of going in for mixed farming.

"The greatest source of wealth in any country is its grasses, and in no country is that source so abundant and available for so long a period each year as in the Canadian North-west. When the snow is off the ground, or when it is not too deep to be easily scraped away by the animals, the grass furnishes abundant and most nutritious food for all kinds of farm stock.

"The true system to pursue is unquestionably mixed farming. A man who will start with the cow and the pig, and use ordinary intelligence in the care of these animals, cannot fail to succeed in making a good living for himself and family, and a balance at his banker's.

"I say all this as the result of my own personal observation and experience. I have made a specialty of four lines, namely, butter, pork, beef and No. 1 hard wheat, and notwithstanding that many people in the same neighbourhood, and under exactly similar conditions, only succeeded in raising wheat which graded as No. 2 or No. 3, I have been able to produce No. 1 hard. I attribute this principally to the care I have always taken in the proper cultivation of the soil, and the preparation of my wheat land the year before.

"The preparation of the soil of the seed bed in the same spring in which the seed is to be sown may if circumstances are favourable produce a fair crop, but there is great risk in that case of damage from early frost or at best of a small yield. Still, if a man is engaged in mixed farming his wheat even in that case will pay him well, for he will be able to feed it to his pigs and convert it into a most useful and marketable article in the shape of good pork.

"Last season and the year before I sold my No. 1 hard wheat at 63 and 50 cents, respectively. I sold it at these prices because I found that I could buy lower class wheat in sufficient quantities to feed my pigs. Had I not been able to do this, it would have paid me much better to feed my No. 1 wheat to the pigs than to sell it at the prices mentioned. I sold my pork at 7 cents a pound, and thus actually realized \$1 a bushel for the inferior wheat.

"I make butter on my farm; I keep a number of cows; I put up first class stone buildings, which is easily done by the ordinary skill of any common farmer. I have built my stone buildings, and carried on my farm by following the rules of the Experimental Farms of Canada. By observing those rules, I have been enabled to make a first-class article of butter, for which I have received a first-class price. Whilst many of my neighbours have gone on in the old-fashioned slipshod way, and have sold their butter to the merchants and taken goods out of the stores in payment for it, I, by taking the proper course, with no better cows, and no better milk, have been able to make a first-class article, for which I have got a first-class cash price, and a paying one as well.

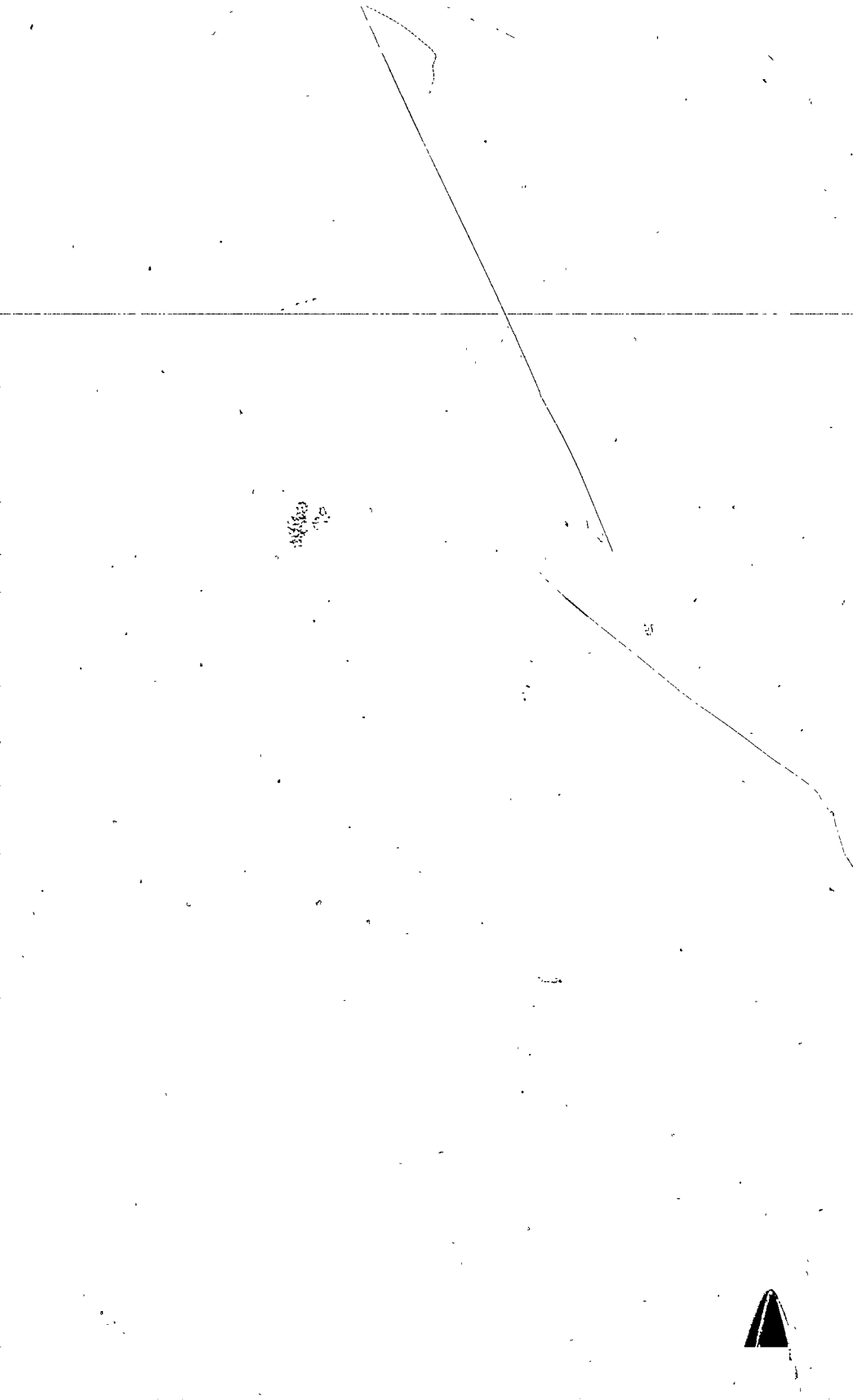
"It is a common thing all over the prairie country to see the farmers burn their straw after threshing it. A more suicidal and ruinous practice cannot be followed than that of burning the straw stacks. Whilst these stacks do not afford as nutritious and good a food as hay, still for short winters, with an occasional addition of other food, it is of real value.

"I cannot do better in this connection than to give my own personal experience in raising beef animals, the first of which I sold last autumn.

"In the spring of 1889, I raised 20 calves, 10 of them being steers I raised for beef alone. They were only common cattle. I gave them their mother's milk in its purity for three weeks, then skimmed milk for six or eight weeks more, and after that, grass alone, and the pigs got the milk. I credited the cow in each case with \$5 for this, and charged the calf with \$5. Each of these steers ate that winter one ton of hay, for which I charged the calf \$3. It only cost me \$1, but I could have got \$3 for it at home. I then pastured them out for \$1 each for the season of 1890. The winter of 1890-1, they ran out at the straw stacks, ate out of them by day and slept by them at night, which was not the most unprofitable way of doing. But I would have burned the straw if they had not eaten it, therefore, they cost me nothing that season. The summer of 1891-2 I again paid a dollar for pasture and care. The following winter I again fed straw, but in the stable. The manure was worth the labour. Barley and wheat straw alone were used, which would have been burned had I not fed it to them. Last summer I again herded them out at \$1, thus making in all \$11 of a charge against each, and I sold the ten a month before the grazing season was over for \$35 each, cash in my hand, giving me a net profit of \$24 on each steer—the outcome of my straw stacks and the nutritious prairie grass.

"I might go into other details, but I may as well say shortly that in my opinion, based on actual experience, it is utterly unlikely that a man going to the North-west, will make a failure, if he pursues a system of mixed farming and uses any reasonable amount of the most ordinary intelligence and common sense.

"On my farm I consider that my dairy and my pork pay all my expenses, and the money that I receive for my beef and my No. 1 wheat, is all clear profit."





DOMINION LANDS REGULATIONS

HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

All even-numbered sections of agricultural land, excepting 8 and 26, are open for homestead entry, unless specially reserved for some other purpose.

ENTRY.

Entry may be made personally at the local land office in which the land to be taken is situate, or, if the homesteader desires, he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, receive authority for some one near the local office to make the entry for him. The fee for entry is \$10.

DUTIES.

Under the present law, homestead duties may be performed in three ways:

1. Three years' cultivation and residence, during which period the settler may not be absent for more than six months in any one year without forfeiting the entry.

2. Residence for three years within two miles of the homestead quarter-section, the last three months of which residence must be in a habitable house erected upon such homestead. Ten acres must be broken the first year after entry, 15 acres additional in the second, and 15 acres in the third year; 10 acres to be in crop the second year, and 25 acres the third year.

3. A settler may reside anywhere for the first two years, in the first year breaking 5 acres, in the second year cropping said 5 acres, and breaking additional 10 acres, also building a habitable house. The entry is forfeited if residence is not commenced at the expiration of two years from date of entry. Thereafter the settler must reside upon and cultivate his homestead for at least six months in each year for three years.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT

may be made before the local agent or any homestead inspector.

Six months' notice must be given in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands by a settler of his intention, prior to making application for patent.

All communications having reference to lands under control of the Dominion Government, lying between the eastern boundary of Manitoba and the Pacific coast, should be addressed to

The Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands,
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

WESTERN CANADA

FREE HOMES FOR ALL

IN THE

GREAT PROVINCES OF MANITOBA, ASSINIBOIA, SASKATCHEWAN AND ALBERTA

